



The **X-MEN**™ FEATURING:

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
C&E
AUTHORITY

MARVEL
COMICS
GROUP

12¢ 47 AUG
IND.

THE BEAST and ICEMAN



THE MYSTERY OF... THE **MAHA YOGI!**

Hypnotic Whirling Coin
HYPNOTIC COIN FANTASTIC!
A pocket-size invention. Hold plastic HYPO-COIN in hand. Turn it over, gently moving coin it whiles. It appears and holds while they are hypnotized! QUICK!
No. 8103. 25¢
Sat. 25¢
Complete with simplified book that tells you what to say and do, how to make others to re-hypnotize with snap of fingers, amazing stunts!

CHAMELEON

Watch It Change Color!
Wear On Your Lapel

**Date
Standing
Educational**

& Scientific Value to Young Naturalists!

way. The change in color takes but a few minutes and you can watch the change. Almost 4-inches long. Catches flies and insects with remarkable action of the Chameleon without a tail. Finding a place to stay, it can catch many insects.

□ 5001. Live Chameleons. Pair with food and book. Postpaid

LIVE PET

Alive!

Who makes it
changes its colors?
What does it eat?
Do you have to charge
it? What is its
remedial action like?
Find out.

..... \$1.95
Touch bell to person or object to discharge static. Lasts forever. Harmless. No. 4997. 75¢ ea. 2 for \$2.00

FAMOUS GERMAN MEDALS



Large, full size. Beautiful detail, authentic designs. \$5.00 each, color or black and white. All three for \$14.95.

8949. Luftwaffe Nazi Pilot Parachute 2.95

8950. Nazi SS Swastika Century 12.50

8948. Iron Cross (Right) \$2.50

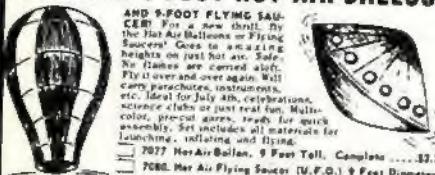
COMPLETE SELF DEFENSE



Unbreakable, Unarmed Self Defense. Includes KARATE, JUDO, JU JITSU, SAVATE, AIKIDO, YAWARA, ATE-WAZA, etc. Complete book. All the latest self defense centers, pressure points making it possible for a person to stand up and knock big belligerent in seconds. Over 200 diagrams, anatomical charts. How your body works, how to defend when clubs, knives, even guns or close fighting. Invaluable for ladies. Fully guaranteed to be finest, most complete, most modern book.

..... \$10.00. Complete Only..... \$11.00

MAMMOTH 9 FOOT HOT AIR BALLOON



AND 9-FOOT FLYING SAUCER! For a new thrill, the Hot Air Balloons or Flying Saucers. Go to amazing heights or just fly around. No flames are carried aloft. Fly over and over again. Will carry passengers, instruments, etc. Ideal for Jet flights, science clubs or just real fun. Multi-colored precision gages, ready for quick assembly. Complete in all materials for launching, inflating and flying.

7077. Hot Air Balloon, 9 Foot Tall, Complete..... \$3.75

7080. Hot Air Flying Saucer (U.F.O.) 9 Feet Diameter, Complete..... \$3.75

REAL CENTS



Kennedy Looks at Lincoln
Genuine penny with Lincoln Imprint, et
Kennedy. Unusual and rare souvenir.

..... \$1.95

Lincoln Smoking Pipe

Genuine penny. Lincoln smoking with pipe. Unusual and rare.

..... \$1.95

BOOK SAFE

Looks like attractively bound book. Has combination lock safe. Safe paper, jewels, money, etc. 10" x 12" x 4". 4x61/2-1/2".
Price Postpaid. \$1.25

SUPER POWER MAGNETS

GO TREASURE HUNTING. FISH WITH A MAGNET. Times of recoverable fun. LIFTS 60 POUNDS AND EVEN MORE UNDER WATER! Thousands of potential uses. Recover valuable outboard motors, tackle, tools, metal objects, etc. Detects metal scientific stunts, including hidden metal objects in buildings, underground, etc.

..... \$1.95. Super Magnet. Each..... \$2.50

MAMMOTH

MAGIC CABINET

Put it in a corner and it disappears! A pocket cabinet. 2 hours to make. 10" x 12" x 4".

..... \$1.95. Price Postpaid. \$1.25

SECRET BUG MICROPHONE TRANSMITTER

Hidden "bug" microphone for secret conversations in secret places. On/off switch, volume control, etc. Complete except for battery & earphone or speaker. With directions.

..... \$1.95. "Bugs" Only \$1.25

No. 8552. "Bugs" 11.25

MASTER MAGIC SET \$2.50

Contains 100 great tricks which regularly sell for \$4.50. Includes: Cup and Ball, Egg and Teal, Peacock, Magic Aid, Phantoms, etc., with booklets. All equipment included.

..... \$1.95

MAD, MAD, MAD SCIENTIST LABORATORY

Welcome to the Wild World of Mystery, Monsters & Minerals! Your friends will think you're the evil genius that becomes the talk of the town.

Over 100 experiments, scientific wonders, magic potions & special effects.

Includes: Mad Scientist, Witch's Brew, Shakespear Powder, Money Crystals, Leech's Love Dust, Rainbow Potion, Ghoul's Goblets, etc. and much more, measuring & other lab equipment, monoculars, etc.

..... \$1.95

Large Lab Set.

..... \$1.95

Price Postpaid.

..... \$1.95

No. 6598. Complete Ready to Play

..... \$1.95

POCKET RADIO-\$1.75

Listen to MUSIC, SPORTS, NEWS, SPECIAL BROADCASTS

with your own personal pocket radio. Listen to radio stations not able to play in. Listen in bed, at school, almost anywhere.

Measuring 3" x 1 1/2" x 1 1/2". Plastic case, 12 batteries. Size of cigarette pack. Dull "black & white".

..... \$1.75. Lifetime guarantee.

No. 8316. Postpaid

..... \$1.75

DeLuxe

Graduation Ring

Winged Man's Military Style Ring. 14k Gold.

Special comes with brilliant red fire.

With raised

..... \$1.75. American Eagle in design. 14k gold. Size 8.

..... \$1.75

No. 8316. Postpaid

..... \$1.75

POCKET RING-\$1.75

Listen to MUSIC, SPORTS,

NEWS, SPECIAL BROADCASTS

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With raised</

X-MEN! THE MOST UNUSUAL FIGHTING TEAM OF ALL TIME!™

"THE WARLOCK WEARS THREE FACES!"

FOLLOWING THE TRAGIC DEATH OF "PROFESSOR X"--AND A DIRECT ORDER FROM AGENT DUNCAN OF THE FBI--THE X-MEN ARE **NO MORE!** AND NOW, AT THE LOWEST EBB OF THEIR YOUNG LIVES, TWO MEMBERS OF THE ONCE-FAMED FIGHTING TEAM MUST FACE ONE OF THE MOST DEADLY MENACES OF ALL--AND THEY MUST DO IT... **ALONE!**

IT STILL SEEMS LIKE SOME KIND OF **NIGHTMARE!** EVEN THOUGH IT'S BEEN DAYS SINCE WE SPLIT UP...

...I JUST CAN'T MAKE MYSELF BELIEVE THE X-MEN WILL NEVER BE A TEAM AGAIN!

BOBBY'S STILL AS UPSET AS I AM! EVEN THOUGH WE'RE THE BEST OF FRIENDS... IT'S AS IF THERE WERE SOME SORT OF BARRIER BETWEEN US!

MAYBE IF HANK AND I TALKED IT OVER... BUT WHAT GOOD WOULD IT DO? THE X-MEN ARE FINISHED... AND WE MIGHT AS WELL LEARN TO LIVE WITH IT!

AND THE SAME GOES FOR US, MUTANT-WATCHER--BUT IF YOU THINK THAT MEANS AN END TO THE DYNAMIC DRAMA AND AGONIZING ACTION, JUST TURN THE PAGE AND FIND OUT HOW **WRONG** YOU CAN BE...AFTER YOU READ OUR CAVORTIN' CREDITS, NATCH!

STAN LEE
SUPERBLY SUPERVISES
STILL ANOTHER MARVEL
SUPER-SAGA, AIDED
AND ABETTED BY...

THE SUPERS SCRIPTING OF:
GARY FRIEDRICH & ARNOLD DRAKE

THE LAVISH LAY-OUTS OF: **DON HECK**

THE PEERLESS
PENCILS OF:
WERNER ROTH

THE ILLUSTRIOUS INKS OF: **JOHN TARTAGLIONE**

and
THE LEGIBLE LETTERING OF: **ARTIE SIMEK**

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AFTER ALL, THE FBI FELT
WE COULD FIGHT EVIL
MUTANTS MORE EFFECTIVELY
IF WE WERE SPREAD ACROSS
THE COUNTRY!

...SO THAT AT
LEAST ONE OF
US WOULD BE
NEAR ANY
CRISIS THAT
COMES UP!

I'LL NEVER
BUY DUNCAN'S
THEORY THAT
WE WOULD
GREATLY
ENDANGER
OURSELVES
BY STAYING
TOGETHER!

IT WOULD SEEM
MUCH EASIER FOR
AN ENEMY TO
HUNT US DOWN
AND DISPOSE OF
US ONE-BY-
ONE...

...THAN TO
FACE OUR
COMBINED
POWERS!

STILL, I DON'T SUPPOSE
WE'LL KNOW HOW SOUND
HIS THEORIES ARE FOR
CERTAIN, UNTIL ONE OF
US IS CALLED UPON TO
BATTLE SOME MENACE!

I ONLY HOPE THAT
PERSON DOESN'T
HAVE TO DIE...JUST
TO PROVE TO THE
FBI THAT WE
SHOULD'VE
REMAINED A TEAM!

AH, BOBBY, BOY--
WHY CONTINUE
WRACKING OUR
CONSIDERABLY
CONFUSED
CRANUMS? ALAS,
WHY NOT LOOK
AT THE BRIGHTER
SIDE...

...THAT WE ARE
AT LEAST ON
OUR WAY TO
COURT OUR
OWN, TRUE
LADIES FAIR?

YOU MIGHT
HAVE SOMETHING THERE,
HANK...BUT I
THOUGHT WE
JUST HAD DATES
WITH VERA AND
ZELDA!

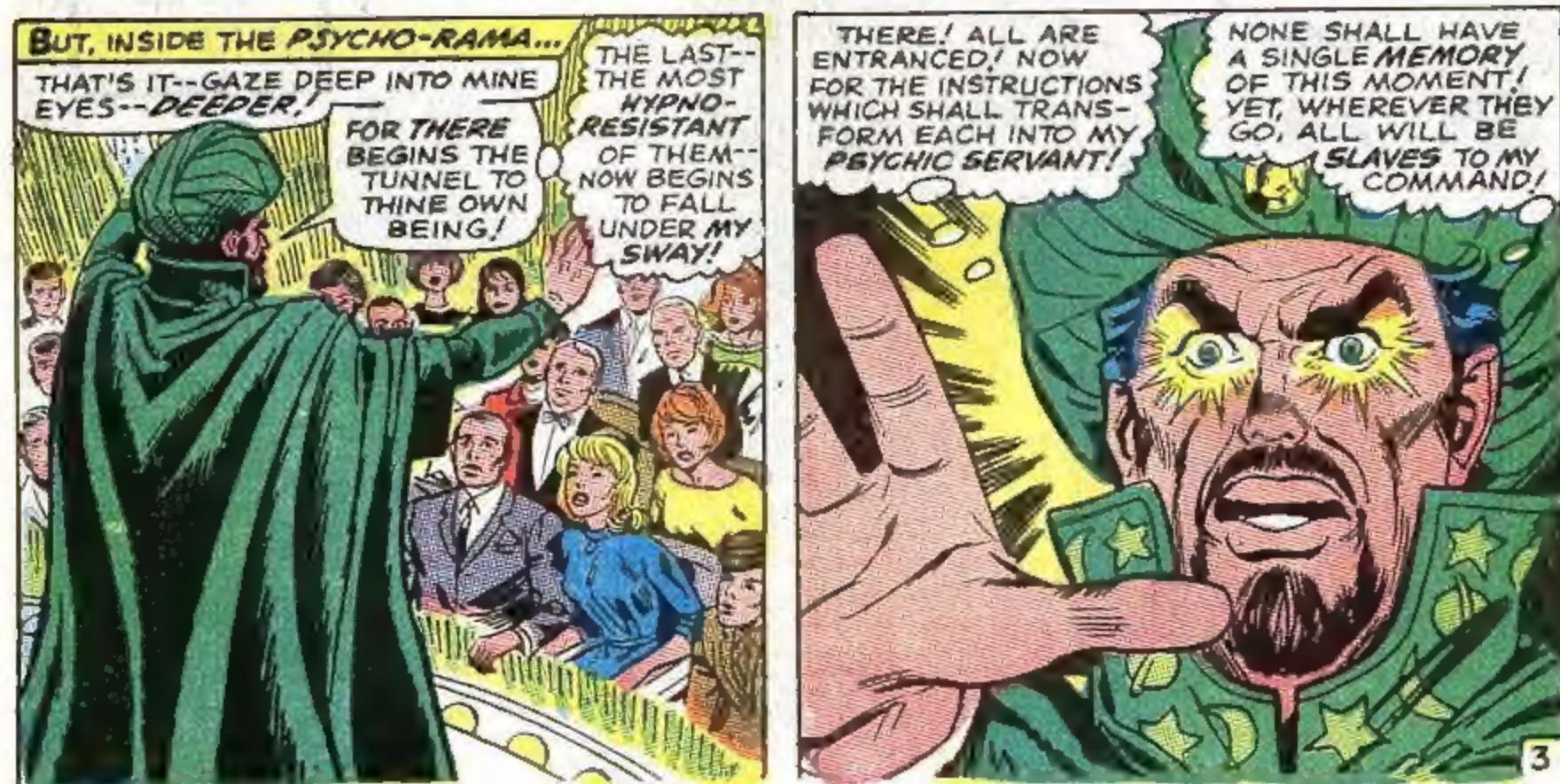
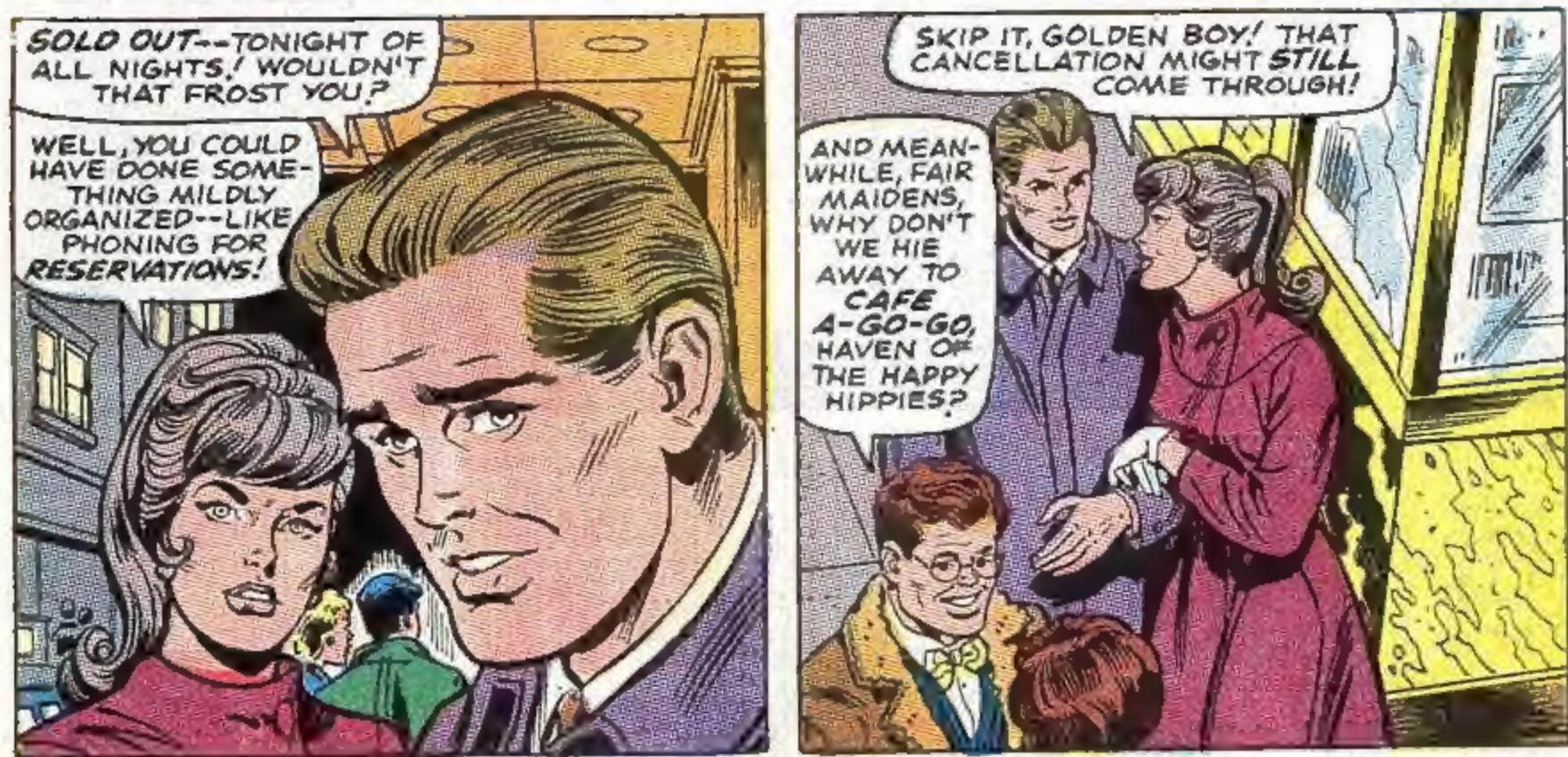
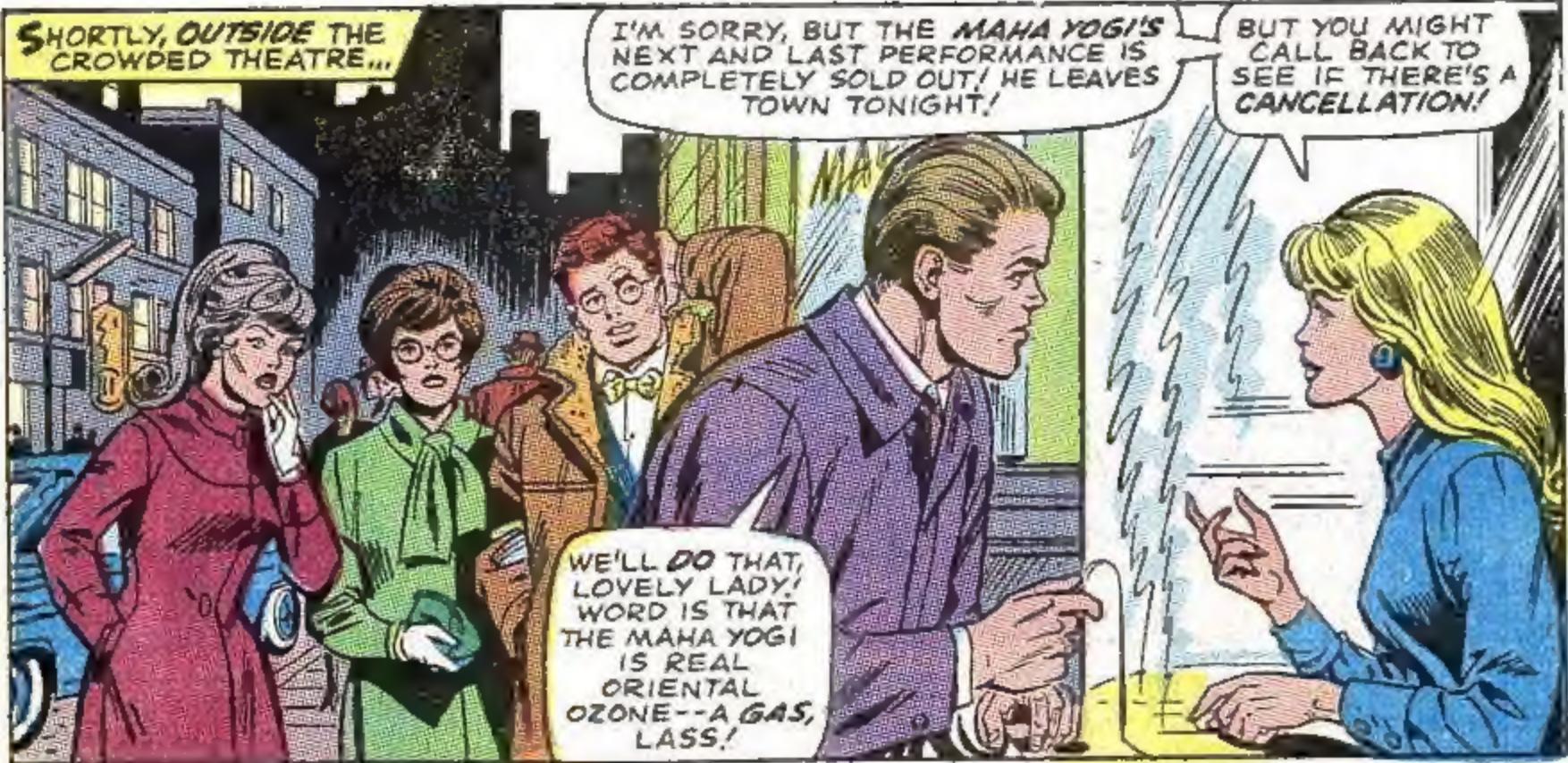
HOWEVER, AS OUR TWO DOWN-
TRODDEN HEROES HEAD FOR
THE SINGLE BRIGHT SPOTS IN
THEIR LIVES...

...LET US TURN
OUR ATTENTION TO A NEARBY
EAST VILLAGE THEATRE, WHERE
AN ENTRANCED AUDIENCE IS
BEING ENLIGHTENED BY THE
INCOMPARABLE MAMA YOGI!

EACH OF
YOU HAS
COME IN
SEARCH OF
THE KEY
TO YOUR
OWN
COSMIC
BEING!

AND WHEREIN LIES THAT
KEY? IT LIES DEEP
WITHIN THE ECTOPLASMIC
CORE OF THINE OWN
EXISTENCE!

FOR THERE...IN THE
DARKNESS OF THINE
OWN TRUE IDENTITIES...
HIDES THE POWER OF
THE UNIVERSE!



PETE DUNCAN—"DROPOUT"

"WHEN I TURNED 16, I WANTED TO REALLY START LIVING..."

FREE AT LAST!

NO MORE SCHOOL FOR ME.
MY NEW JOB PAYS \$60
A WEEK. AND I'M BUYING
A CAR WITH MY
OWN MONEY!

"A REAL BALL—FOR 6 MONTHS, THEN..."

BUSINESS IS BAD,
PETE. WE'VE GOT
TO LAY YOU OFF.
BUT HOW WILL I
KEEP UP PAYMENTS
ON MY CAR?



"I DRIFTED FROM JOB TO JOB,
AND ALWAYS THE SAME STORY..."

I HATE TO LET
A GOOD MAN
GO, PETE. DO
YOU KNOW ANY
BUSINESS MATH?

WHAT CAN I
SAY? I QUIT
SCHOOL BE-
FORE WE
STUDIED
BUSINESS
MATH!

"A YEAR AFTER QUITTING SCHOOL,
I WAS OUT OF A JOB FOR THE
THIRD TIME."

PETE! YOU LOOK-
ING FOR A JOB
HERE, TOO?

BOB SHOLL!
YEAH! I FIGURE
I'VE GOT THE
EXPERIENCE!



"BUT BOB'S DIPLOMA HELPED HIM
CINCH THE JOB I WANTED."

MY OLD CLASSMATES NOT
ONLY GET THE BETTER JOBS,
THEY'RE PAID MORE MONEY
TO START.



"I FINALLY GOT A JOB. \$60 A
WEEK. BUT I HAD TO SELL
MY CAR!"

I QUIT SCHOOL TO MAKE
\$60 A WEEK! I HAVEN'T
HAD A RAISE
IN TWO YEARS!



"THEN, AT LAST, MY LUCK
SEEMED TO TURN..."

HELEN, YOU'RE THE BEST
THING THAT'S HAPPENED
TO ME IN YEARS!



"HELEN AND I WERE MARRIED.
A YEAR LATER, OUR FIRST CHILD
WAS BORN. WE COULDN'T HAVE
BEEN HAPPIER UNTIL, ONE DAY
AT THE PLANT..."

HEARD THE NEWS, PETE? THEY'RE
GOING TO START LAYING OFF
MEN NEXT WEEK!



"WITH A WIFE AND FAMILY
TO CONSIDER, I COULD NO
LONGER AFFORD TO BE
LAID OFF..."

WHAT'RE CLIPPING AN I.C.S.
YOU COUPON, HELEN. I
DOING, CAN EARN MY I.C.S.
HIGH SCHOOL
DIPLOMA IN MY
SPARE
TIME!



"AT LAST! THE BIG DAY..."

MY I.C.S. HIGH SCHOOL
DIPLOMA! GOOD-BYE
LAYOFFS! NOBODY CAN
STOP ME NOW!

I'M
SO
PROUD
OF YOU,
PETE!



CLIP COUPON HERE—I.C.S., Scranton, Penna. 18515, Accredited Member, N.H.S.C.

INTERNATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOLS **I.C.S.**

DEPTD7320F SCRANTON, PENNA. 18515 (In Hawaii, P. O. Box 416, Honolulu. In Canada:
I.C.S. Canadian, Ltd. In other countries: I.C.S. World, Ltd.)

Rush me FREE High School completion kit: "HOW TO SUCCEED," the high school
opportunity booklet about the field I have indicated below, and a sample I.C.S. lesson.
(Special booklets for women. Convenient payment plan.)

<input type="checkbox"/> High School Business	<input type="checkbox"/> High School General
<input type="checkbox"/> High School College Prep (Arts)	<input type="checkbox"/> High School Math
<input type="checkbox"/> High School Prep (Engineering & Science)	<input type="checkbox"/> High School Secretarial
<input type="checkbox"/> Send me Success Kit on I.C.S. courses in other fields.	

Name _____ **Age** _____

Address _____ **(Indicate Mr., Miss, Mrs.)** _____

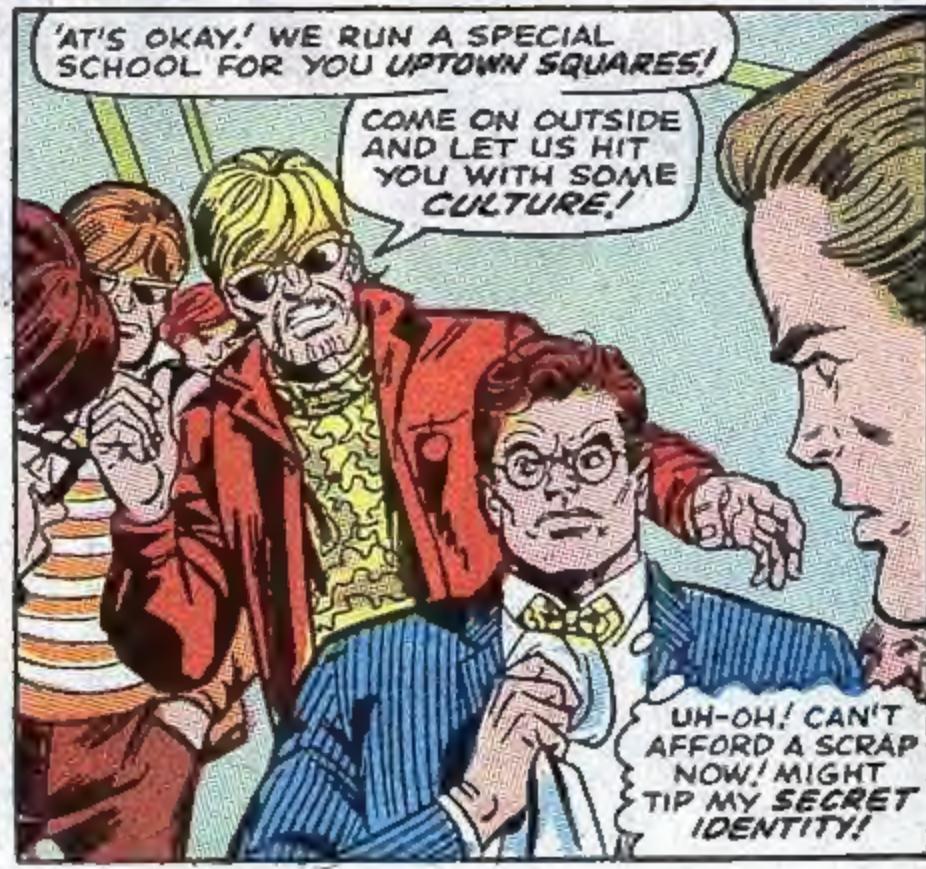
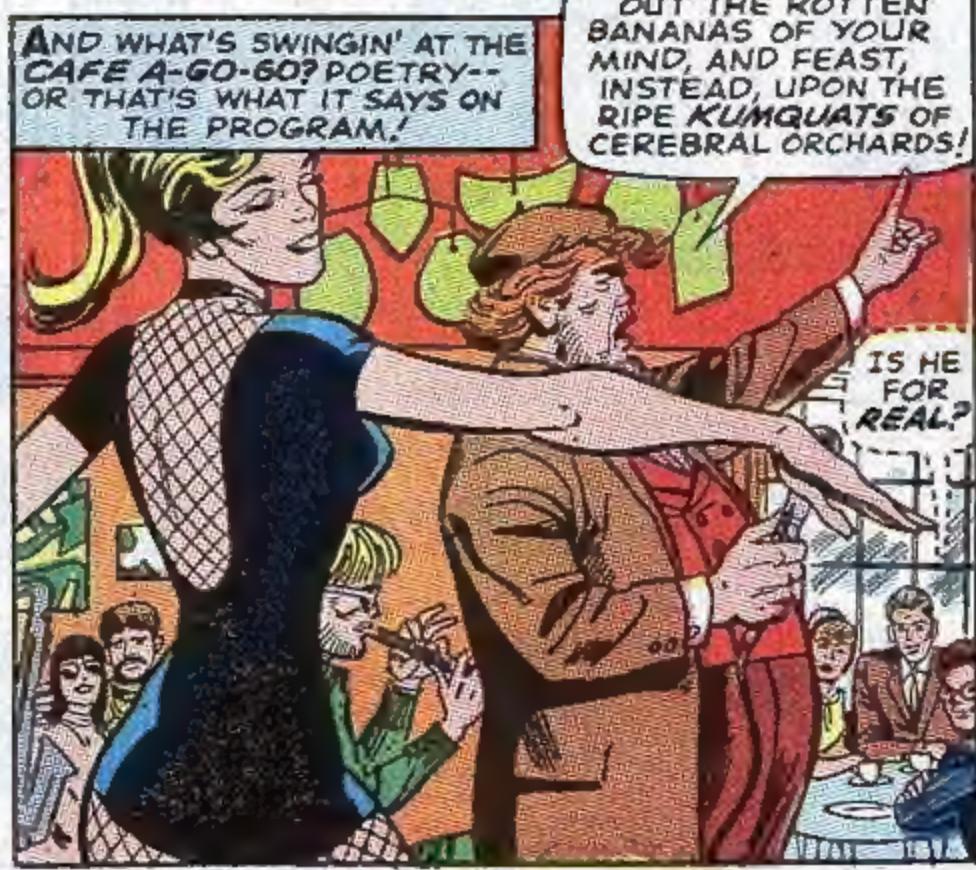
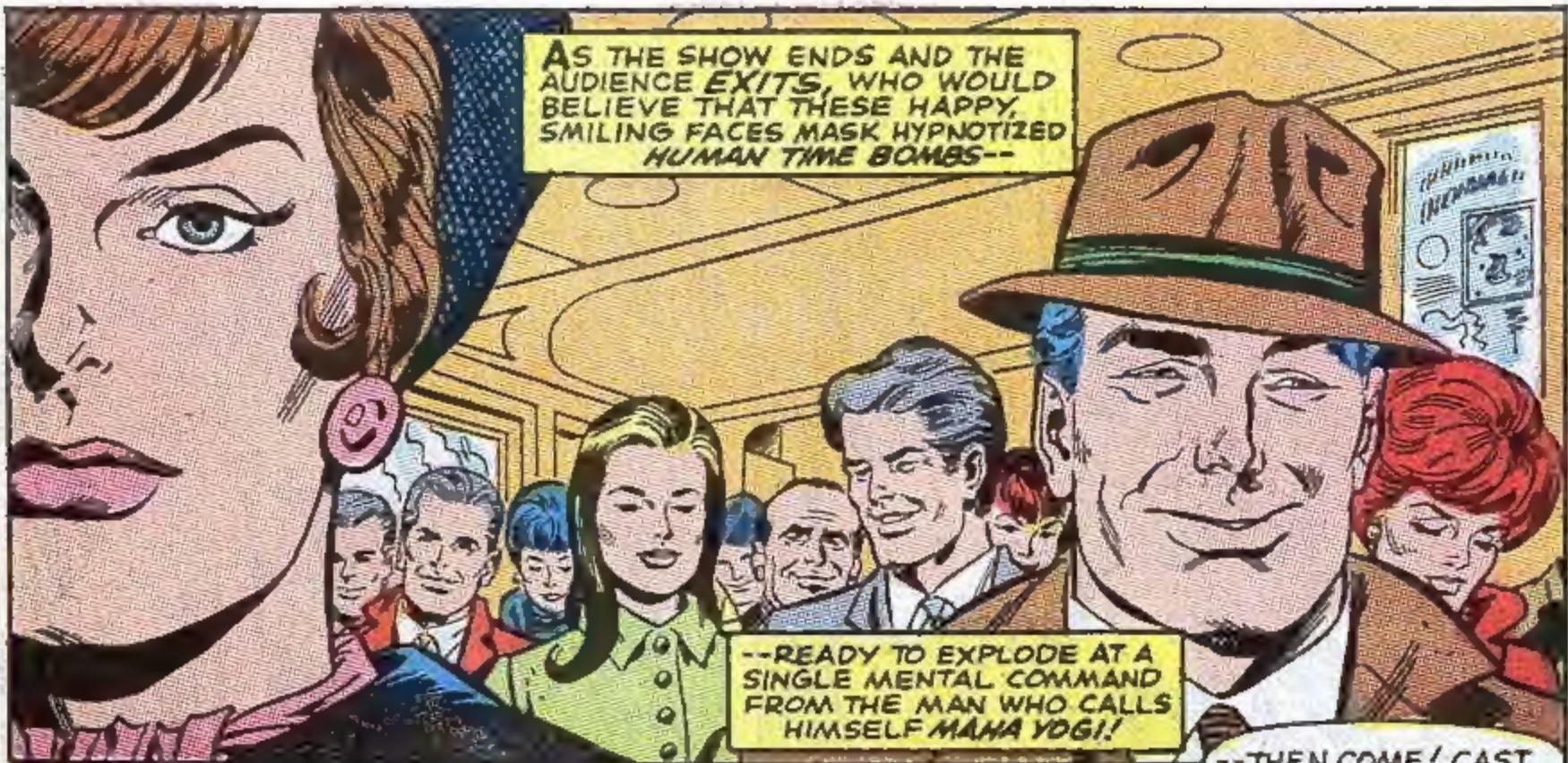
City _____ **State** _____ **Zip Code** _____

Occupation _____ **Employed by** _____ **Working Hours** **A.M. to P.M.** _____

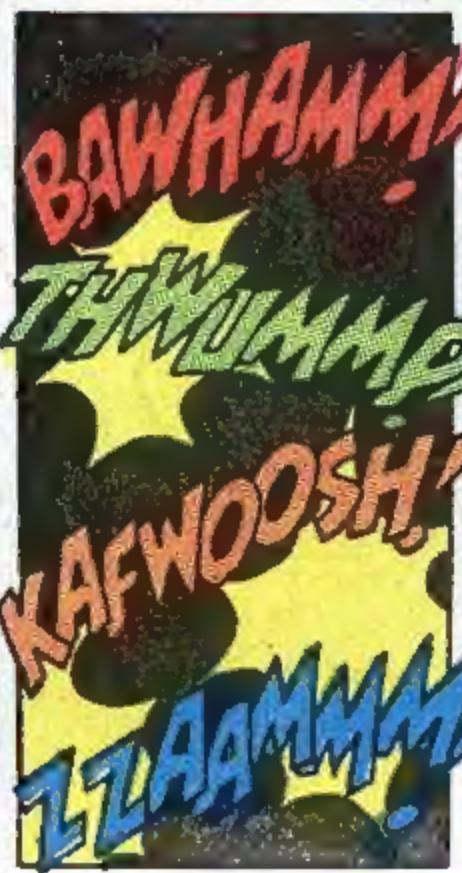
Low rates to members of U. S. Armed Forces **Special training programs for industry**

Pete Duncan is fictional. His story is a composite from the files of I.C.S.

MY NEXT STEP IS TO TAKE SOME I.C.S.
COLLEGE-LEVEL ENGINEERING COURSES—
THE SKY'S THE LIMIT!

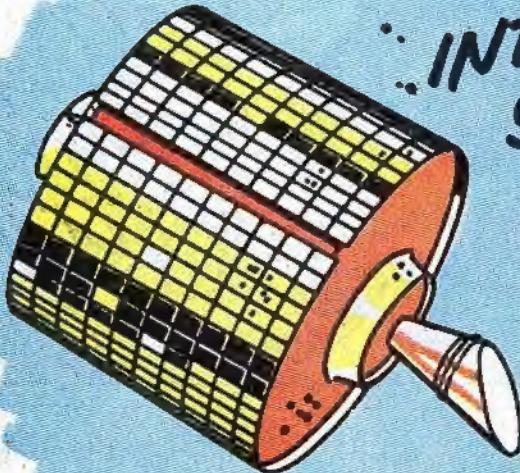






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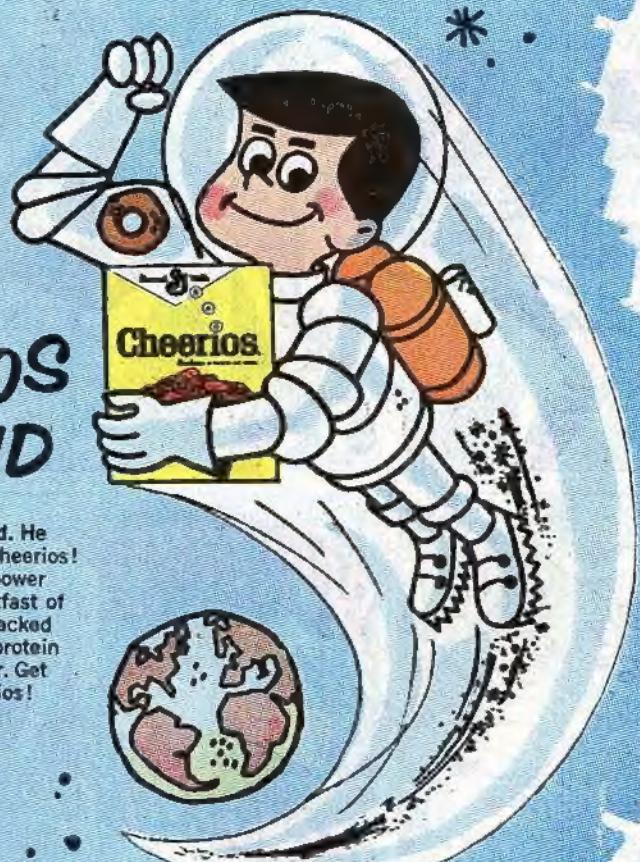
*INTELSAT III SATELLITE



Like the Early Birds, these satellites will hang thousands of miles above the earth. They will be sent up in 1968. Each one can bounce 1200 telephone calls — and four television channels — from one side of the earth to the other all at the same time. They rotate with the earth and always remain above the same spot on the earth. They get their energy from solar energy cells.

CHEERIOS KID

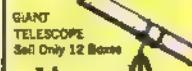
This is the Cheerios Kid. He gets his energy from Cheerios! Like you he needs go-power every day. And a breakfast of Cheerios with milk is packed with muscle-building protein and energy for go-power. Get yourself Go. Get Cheerios!



GET BIG PRIZES OR CASH!



REMINGTON
PORTABLE TYPEWRITER
Sell Only 30 Boxes



GIANT
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Sell Only 12 Boxes



GIRL'S
PENDANT WATCH
Sell Only 4 Boxes



BIKE
SPEEDOMETER
Sell Only 8 Boxes



SPALDING
BASEBALL GLOVE
Sell Only 7 Boxes



PORTABLE
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Sell Only 24 Boxes



LIVERPOOL DRUM SET
Sell Only 24 Boxes



CGX STUKA DIVE BOMBER
Sell Only 8 Boxes



RENEGADE
BICYCLE
Sell Only 28 Boxes



DYMO
LABELMAKER
Sell Only 6 Boxes



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Sell Only 9 Boxes



GRAND PRIX RACE SET
Sell Only 18 Boxes

FREE
SALES KIT!



TWO-MAN RUBBER BOAT
Sell Only 26 Boxes

EARN
\$1.00 A BOX!

DAISY PUMP REPEATER
Sell Only 12 Boxes

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WRISTWATCH
Sell Only 6 Boxes

SR.
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SET
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Sell Only 10 Boxes

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Sell Only 6 Boxes

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Sell Only 7 Boxes

MINI-BIKE
Sell Only 70 Boxes

TYCO H-O TRAIN SET
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CUBEX CAMERA OUTFIT
Sell Only 7 Boxes

OLYMPIC

YOU CAN GET THESE and many, many other big prizes—or cash—simply by selling beautiful Olympic IMPRINTED CHRISTMAS AND ALL OCCASION CARDS. The Olympic way is the IN way! Here's why:

OLYMPIC SAMPLE BOOK IS FREE! It contains samples of fast-selling Olympic cards—and it's yours to keep. We don't send you boxes of cards in advance. With Olympic, you never have to worry about paying for or returning boxes you don't sell!

OLYMPIC CARDS ARE IN! The imprinted Christmas Cards and the All Occasion Cards are of such high quality they practically sell themselves. All you do is show your attractive Sample Book to friends, relatives, neighbors—and take their orders. Olympic cards sell for only \$2.75 a box—and they're worth much more! Sell enough boxes to get all the prizes you want—or keep \$1.00 per box.

IT'S EASY TO JOIN OLYMPIC! Just fill in and mail the coupon! We'll send you the free Sample Book and the free Catalog of Prizes. There's ABSOLUTELY NO COST TO YOU! Don't wait...join now...it's easy!

BE THE FIRST IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD—JOIN OLYMPIC NOW!

OLYMPIC SALES CLUB INC. Dept. 68MV6 Windsor Locks, Conn. 06096



MOUNTAIN TENT
Sell Only 12 Boxes



ENGLISH BICYCLE
Sell Only 30 Boxes



LA CUCARACHA SLOT RACER
Sell Only 8 Boxes



ARCHERY SET
Sell Only 8 Boxes



EMERSON
PORTABLE TV
Sell Only 60 Boxes



U.S. REGULATION BUGLE
Sell Only 7 Boxes



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Sell Only 50 Boxes



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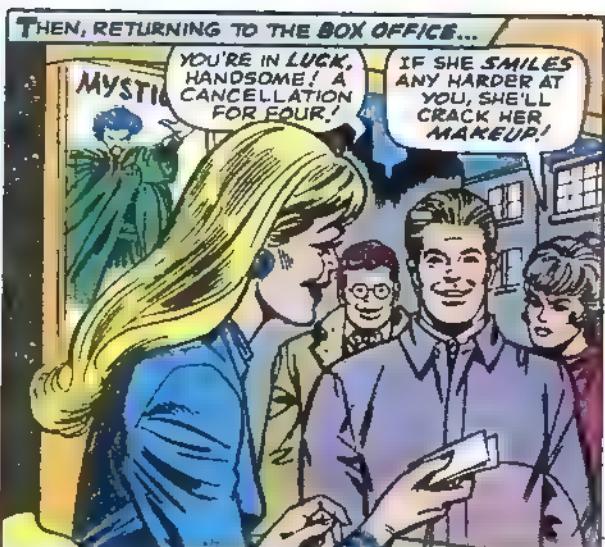
Enroll me as a member without dues or ANY obligation. Send me the FREE catalog of prizes. FREE book of sample cards—all of which I can keep—together with complete details on how to get prizes or cash the easy Olympic way.

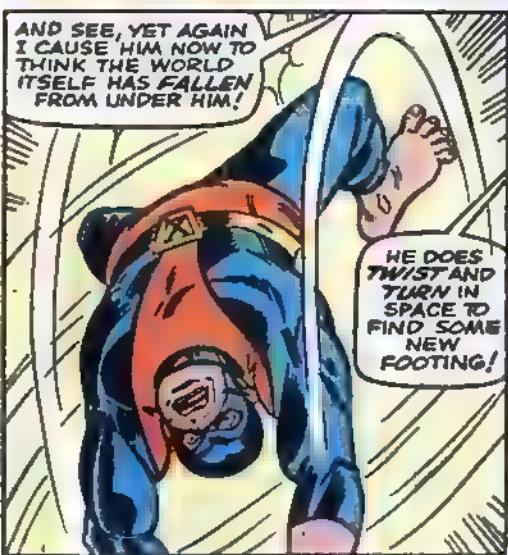
MY NAME _____
Print clearly

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____





HOWEVER, WITH THE BLINDING SPEED OF THOUGHT ITSELF, THE WARLOCK COUNTERS AN EXISTING THREAT WITH AN IMAGINARY ONE...

HE'S SOMEHOW MANAGED TO TURN MY OWN ICING POWERS AGAINST ME!

MY ICE-SHIELD IS CHANGING TO SNOW...

...BEING HURLED AT ME BY A HURRICANE-FORCE ARCTIC WIND!

IT MUST BE SOME KIND OF ILLUSION...

THE SNOW IS BURYING ME ALIVE... AND THE WIND HAS ME PINNED TO THE WALL!

IT'S UNBELIEVABLE... BUT I'M BEING SMOTHERED... KILLED... BY MY OWN IMAGINATION!

BUT IT'S SO REALISTIC... BEING DRUMMED SO POWERFULLY INTO MY MIND... THAT IT SOMEHOW IS AN ACTUAL PHYSICAL THREAT!

AND, UNLESS SOMETHING CAUSES THE WARLOCK TO LOSE HIS CONCENTRATION... THERE'S NO WAY I CAN SURVIVE!

BUT, AS THE YOUNGEST X-MAN LIES FREEZING AND GASPING FOR BREATH...

A THOUSAND PARDONS, MY SOMEWHAT ANCIENT ADVERSARY.

WAK!

...FOR EMPLOYING A TACTIC NEARLY AS OLD AS YOURSELF... THE RABBIT PUNCH!

FOOL! SURELY YOU DID NOT THINK MY EMINENT PERSONAGE COULD BE HARMED BY MERE VIOLENCE!

SUFFICE IT TO SAY THAT THE THOUGHT DID CROSS MY MIND!

BUT, TO COIN A CLICHE, SEEING IS BELIEVING! SO...

HALT, ARROGANT DOLT! LOOK DEEP INTO MINE EYES!

NOW SHALT THINE OWN MIND BECOME MY SERVANT...

...AND THINE OWN TRAITOR WITHIN!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

BASEBALL FANS ARE CRAZY

about this true-to-life
BASEBALL GAME

- PITCHING • HITTING • FIELDING
- RUNNING • MANAGING

Easy to play, real thrilling, exciting baseball with STRAT-O-MATIC. 400 big league players perform according to their actual abilities and your managerial decisions.

You, the manager, not only decide line-ups, insert pinch-hitters, pinch-runners, and relief pitchers, play your infield "in or deep," and make defensive changes at any time, but also call for the sacrifice, steal, hit-and-run, and squeeze-play. All strategy moves are possible with STRAT-O-MATIC.

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Each player has truly individual qualities. He slumps and goes into hot streaks, performs heroics and commits errors. With STRAT-O-MATIC all qualities of a ballplayer are realistic.

If you like baseball, you'll love to play STRAT-O-MATIC

Get the entire story. Mail coupon for a colorful FREE BROCHURE containing complete information and FREE SAMPLES today! Offer limited. Don't delay. Write today while supply lasts!

STRAT-O-MATIC GAME CO., Inc., Box 541, Great Neck, N.Y. 11020

- STRAT-O-MATIC GAME CO., Inc., Dept. 426, Box 541, Great Neck, N.Y. 11020
- Send exciting FREE STRAT-O-MATIC Baseball Game offer and samples via 3rd class mail. (For speedy 1st class delivery, send 12c in coin or stamps.)

• Name _____

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MAIL
COUPON NOW
FOR FREE
Sample Offer!



FANS RAVE

Here are just a few of the hundreds of letters we receive every week, from baseball fans aged 8 to 80, from coast to coast!

STRAT-O-MATIC BASEBALL is the best baseball game I ever have had. Kids swamp over the back porch to play this game! Boy, it is a lot of fun! Thank you for making such a wonderful game. —P. C., Attleboro, Mass.

Just like real baseball. It is fun to play.

—G. V., Cincinnati, O.

As close to realism as one can get and therefore far more superior to other competing baseball games. —F. T., Manila, P.I.

Although it's fantastically realistic, it's also very simple to play. —A. F., Los Angeles, Calif.

I'm one hundred percent satisfied with it. The game provides hours of fun for me and my friends. It's very realistic, and true to life.

—C. H., Lanett, Ala.

The best baseball game. It is realistic and yet not too difficult to play.

—P. M., Port Huron, Mich.

Thank you for creating such an exciting yet realistic game and putting a shine to what might have been a boring summer.

—N. S., Los Angeles, Calif.

Boys are waiting in line to play the game!

—A. H., Chicago, Ill.

It has given me more pleasure than any other game.

—S. E., Rossville, Ind.

The most exciting and fun game ever.

—L.S., Boston, Mass.

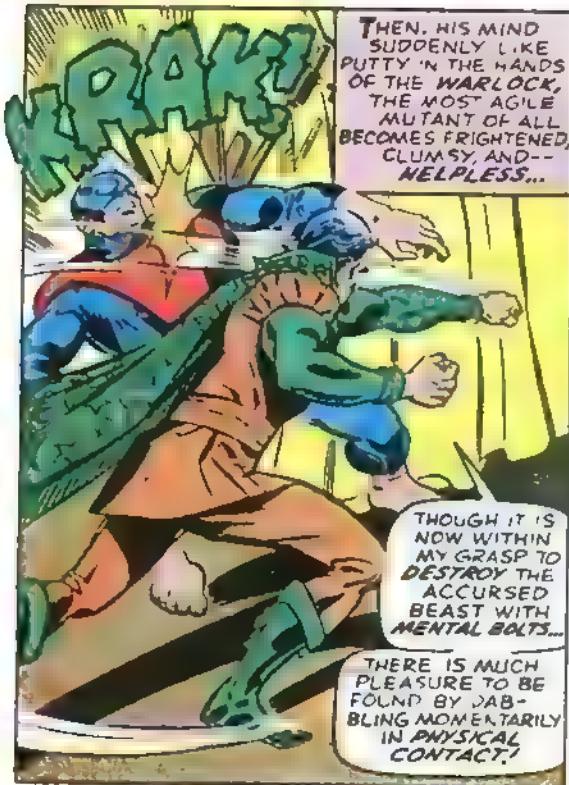
It is so stupendous, words can't explain.

—J. R., Brooklyn, N.Y.

Best on the market. —J. E., Miami, Fla.

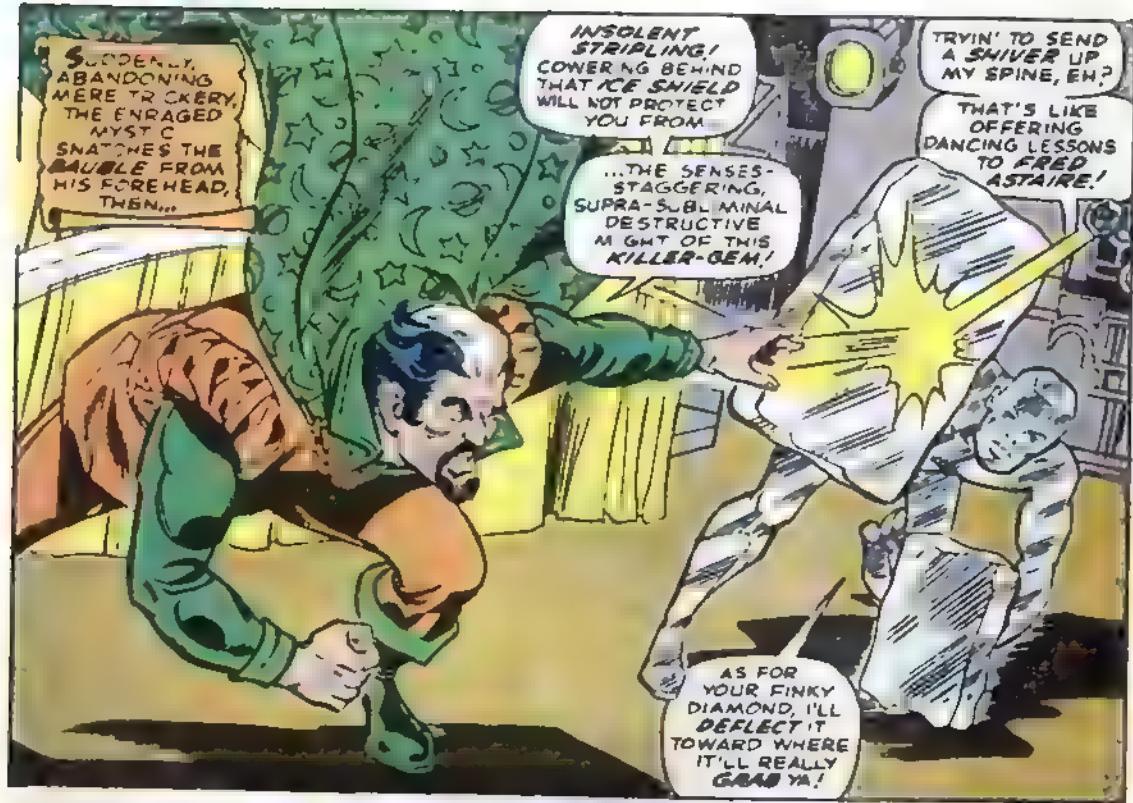
Has given me more enjoyment than I have ever had from any one thing in my entire life. It's worth its weight in gold. As I love baseball, this game gives me something enjoyable to do during the off seasons as well as during the season.

—S. C., Temple City, Calif.



BUT, THOUGH HIS MIND IS NOT HIS OWN...AND HIS STRENGTH ALMOST TOTALLY SAPPED, THE WILL TO SURVIVE STILL BLAZES WITHIN THE BEAST'S HULKING BODY, AND...



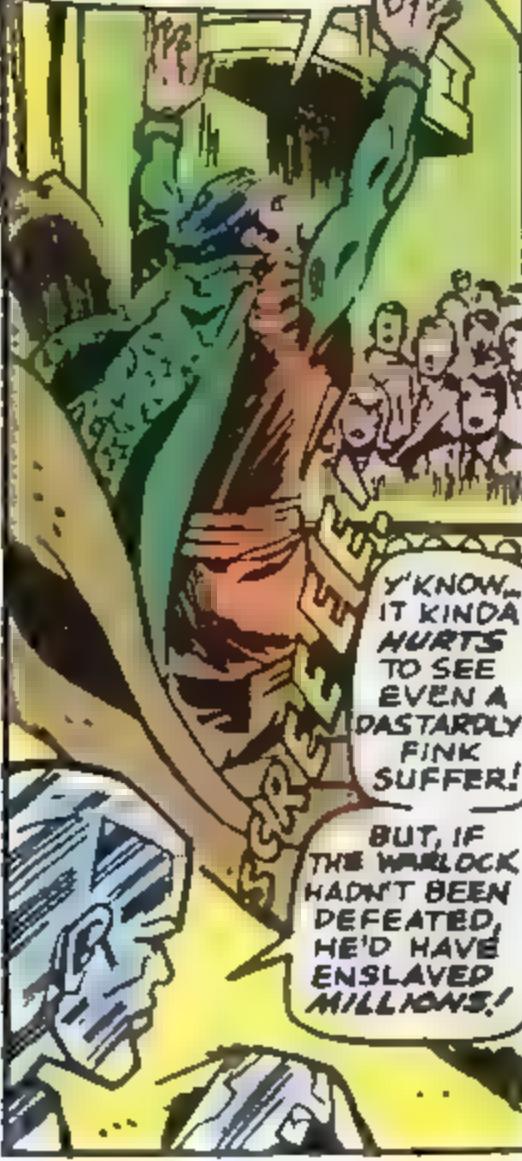




SUDDENLY, ICEMAN'S LONG ARM OF ICE, THRUSTS THE DEAFENINGLY BLARING MECHANISM UNDERNEATH THE SHROUD ENVELOPING THE INFURIATED MASTER OF EVIL...



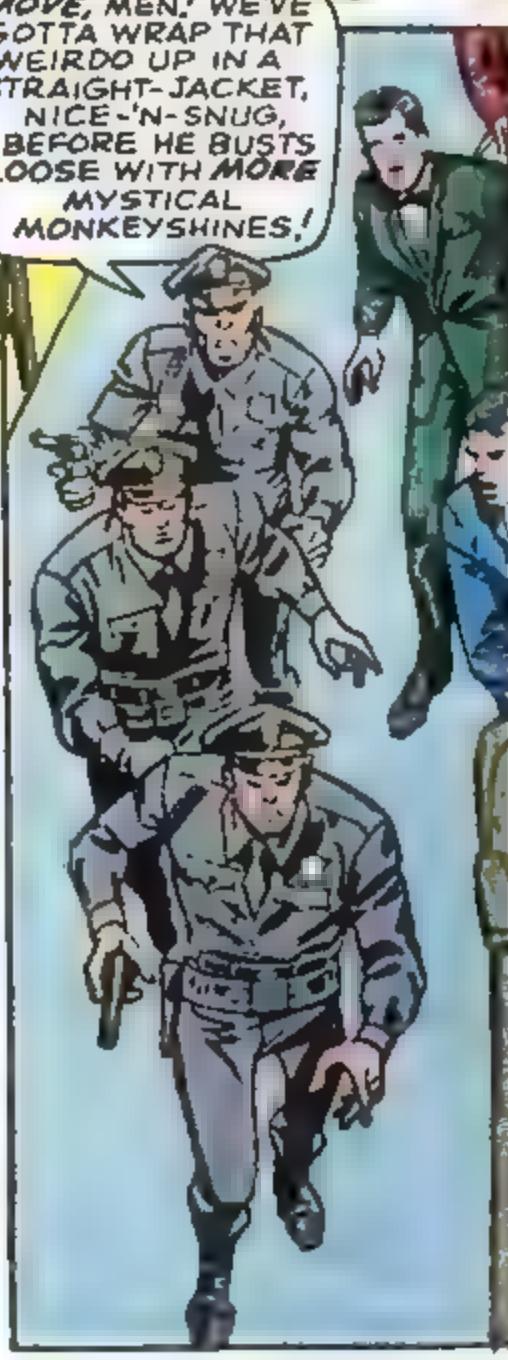
EEEEE-YAAAAA! C-CAN'T BEAR--THIS SOUL-SHATTERING TORMENT--ANOTHER INSTANT! DO WHAT YOU WILL WITH ME, MUTANTS! LOCK ME UP! ANYTHING!!



THE CLANGOROUS CACOPHONY TEARS AT THE MASTER VILLAIN'S REELING WITS LIKE REMORSELESSLY SCRAPING FINGERS OF STEEL...



MOVE, MEN! WE'VE GOTTA WRAP THAT WEIRDO UP IN A STRAIGHT-JACKET, NICE-'N-SNUG, BEFORE HE BUSTS LOOSE WITH MORE MYSTICAL MONKEYSHINES!



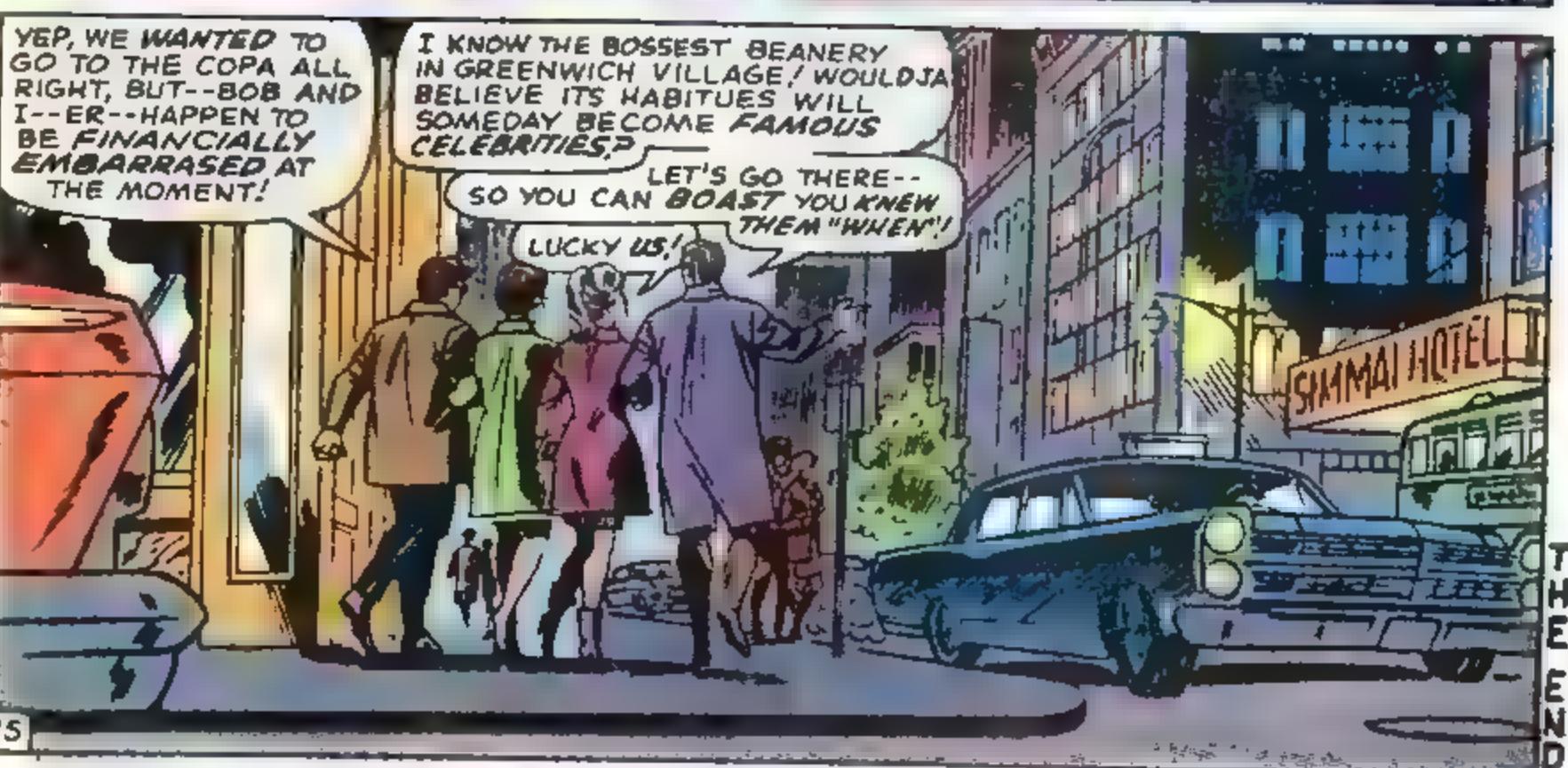
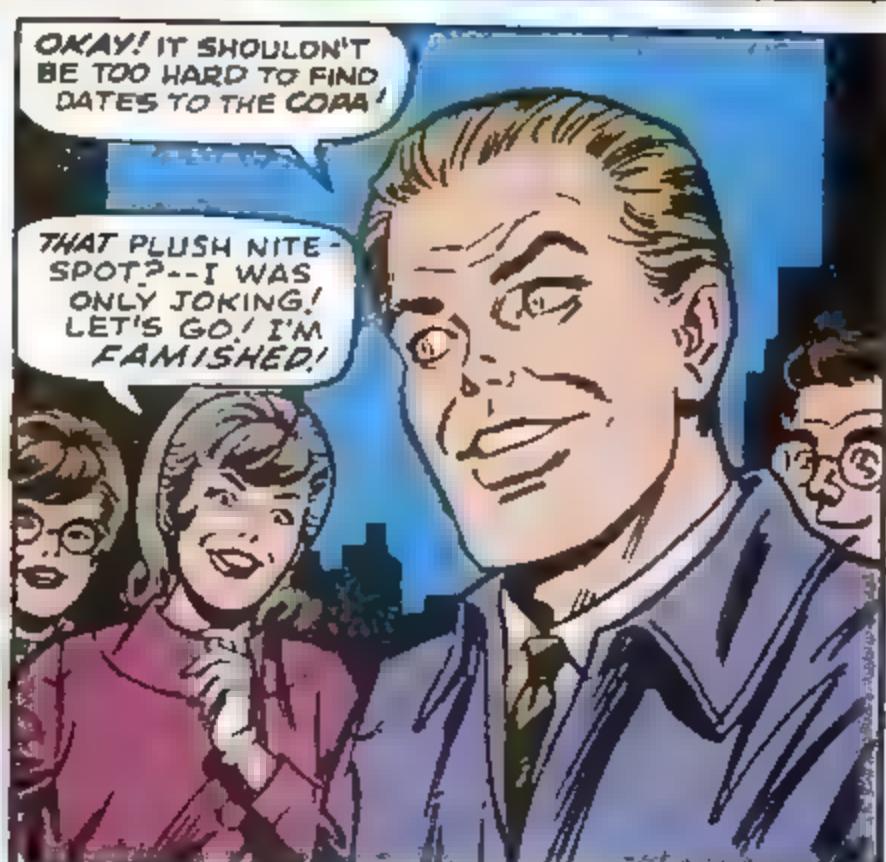
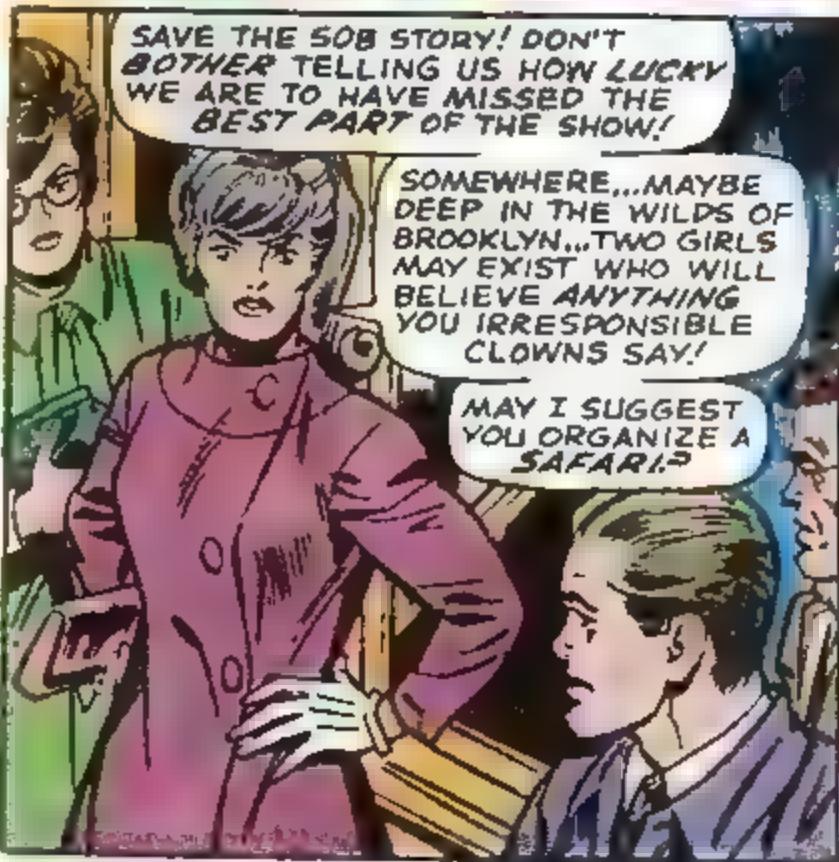
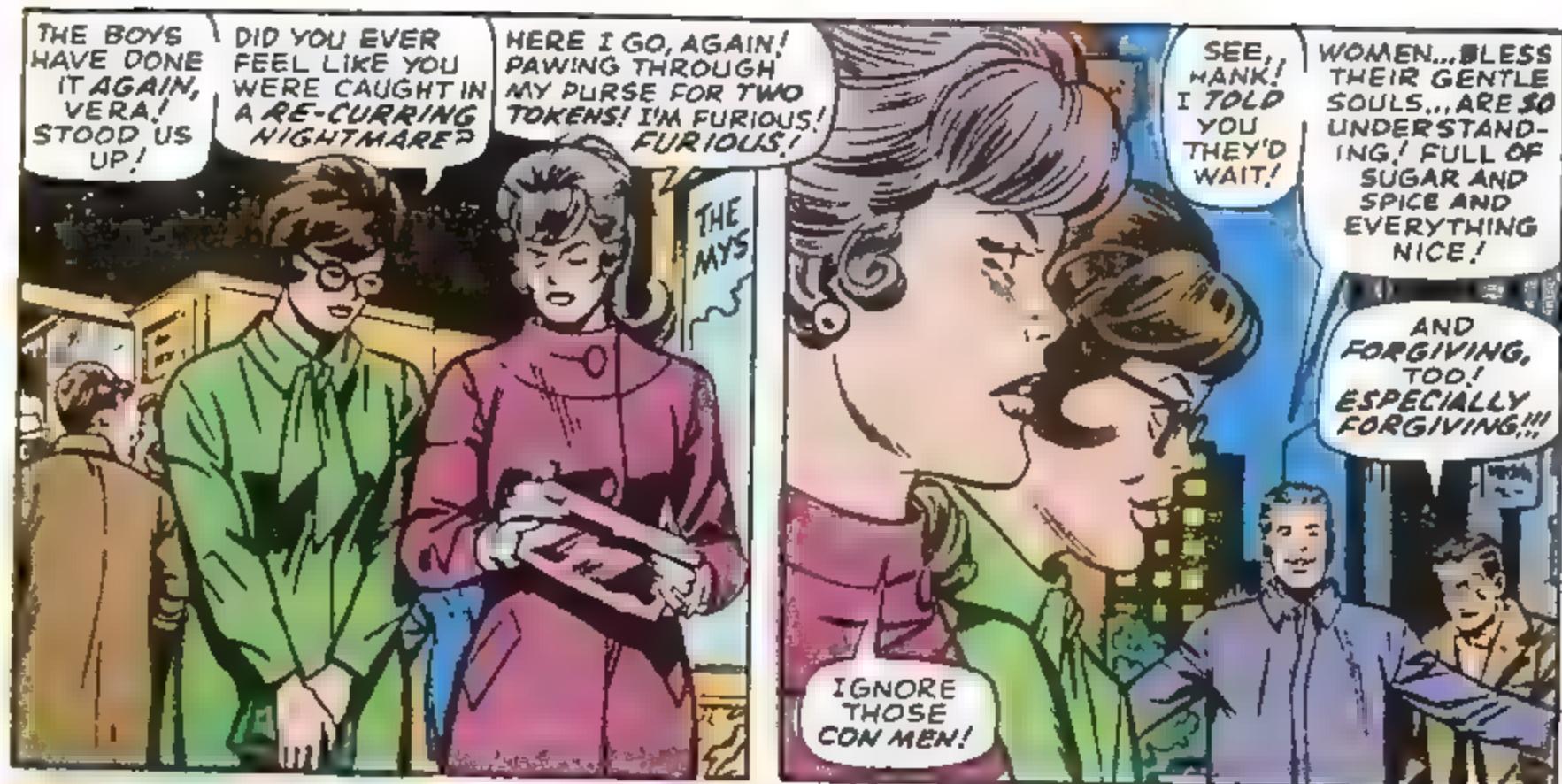
AND STILL THE FRENZIED CLAMOR THUNDERS ON...AND ON--BEATING, TEARING, TWISTING AT THE WARLOCK'S ID! THREATENING HIS UNSTABLE INTELECT WITH COMPLETE DISINTEGRATION!



THAT DOES IT, BEAST! GUESS WE CAN DROP THE SECRET IDENTITIES BIT AND DRAPE OUR SHAPES IN CIVIES AGAIN!

SPEAKING OF SHAPES--TWO CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE FEMININE SPECIES MIGHT POSSIBLY CONCLUDE THEY CAN DO WITHOUT US VERY WELL...





ANOTHER PAGE FROM THE X-FAMILY ALBUM

I, THE ICEMAN

PREEE-
SENTING--
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN--
AND REGULAR READERS,
PERMIT ME TO HIP YOU
TO THE INSIDE STORY OF
MY SUB-ZERO EXISTENCE!

SURE, IT CAN BE COLD
AS A PAWBROKERS HEART!

FROZEN AS A BILL
COLLECTOR'S SMILE!

HARD AS AN ALGEBRA
END-TERM! AND YET--



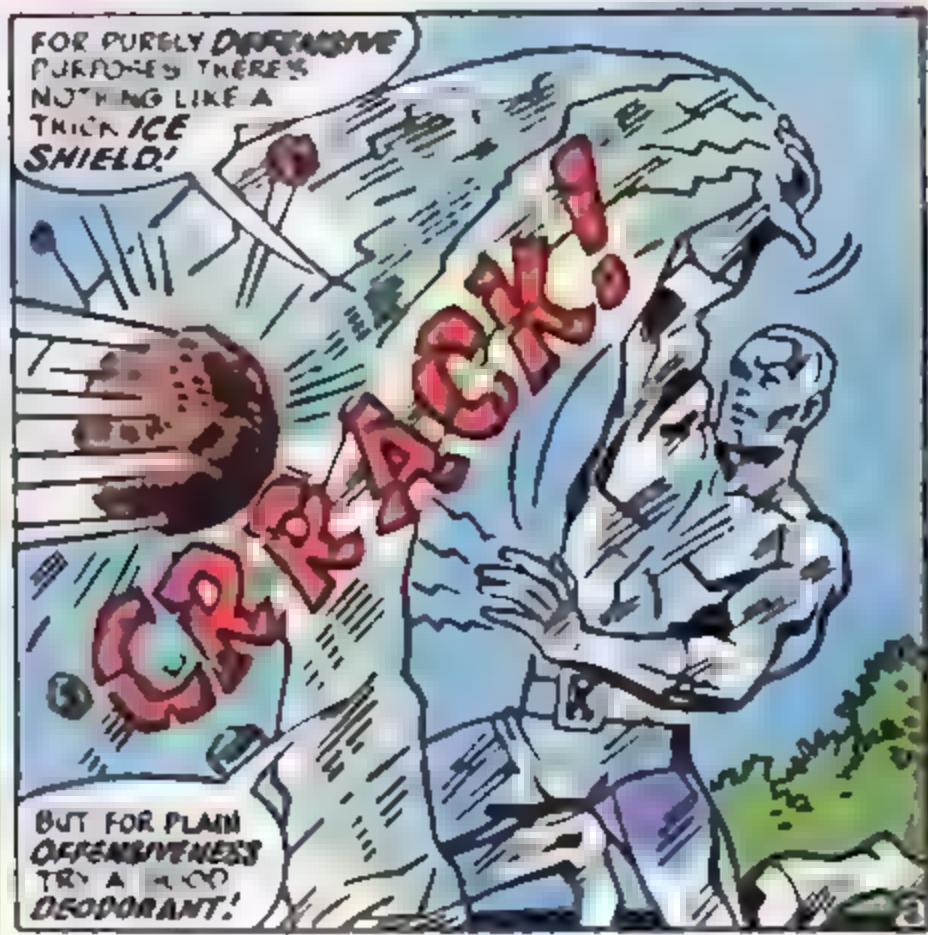
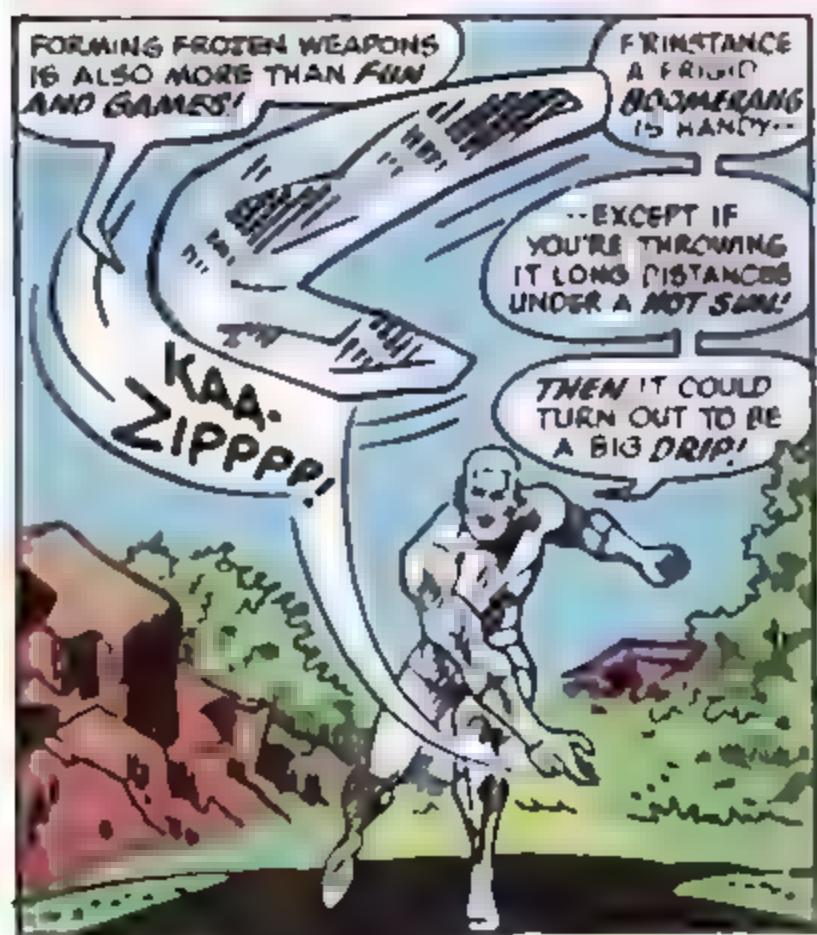
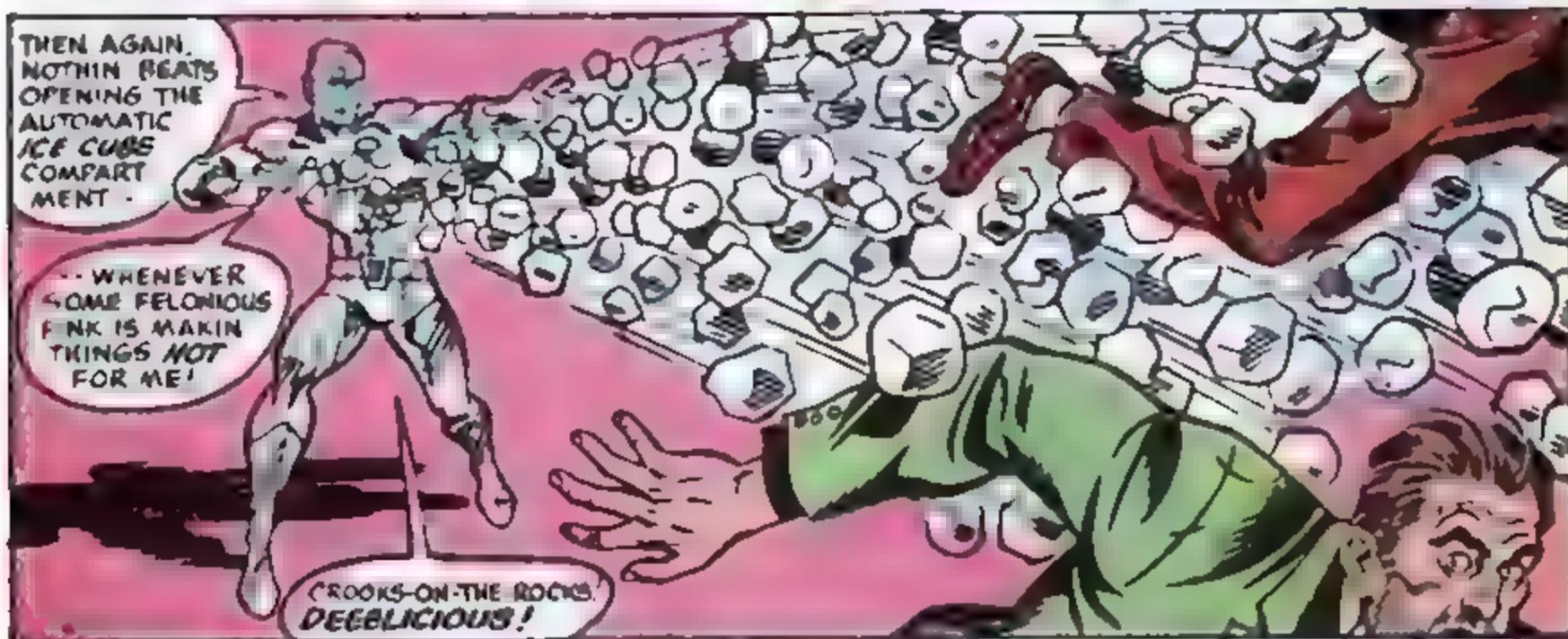
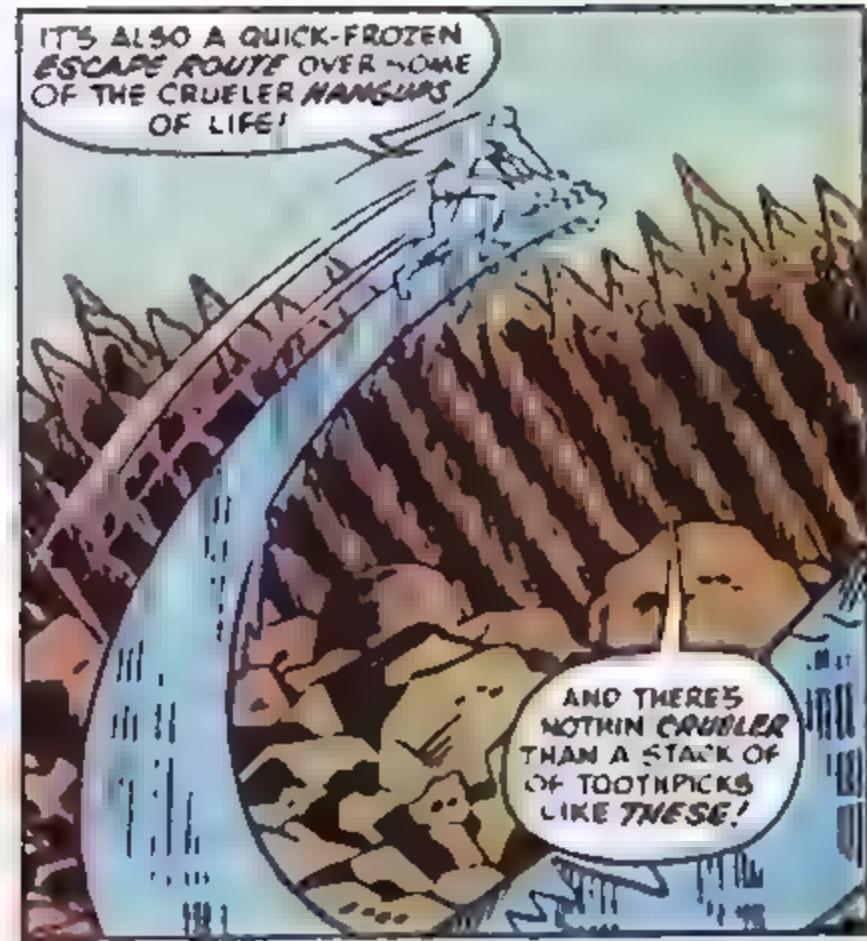
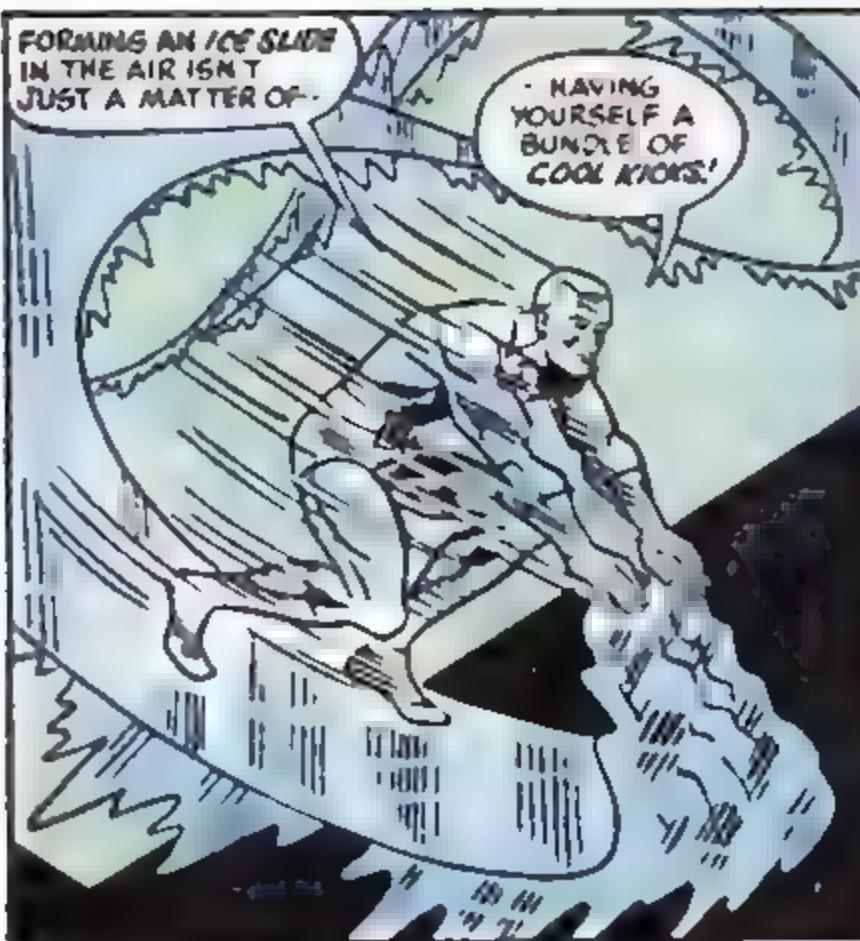
F-F-FRIGIDLY
FASHIONED BY
STAN LEE

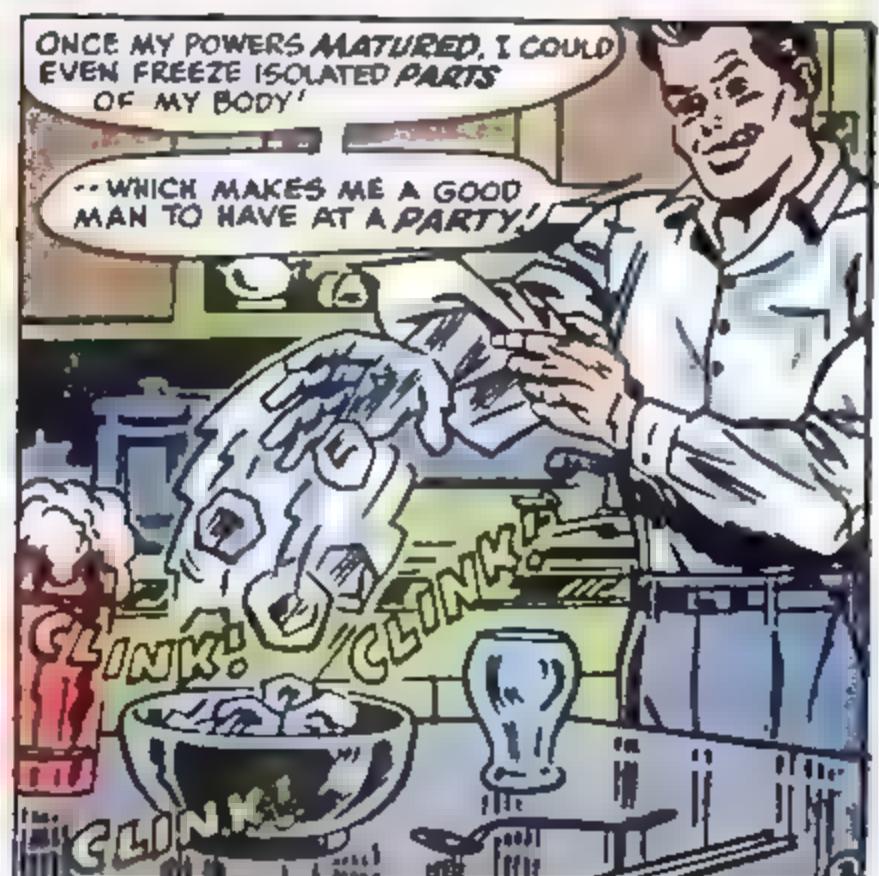
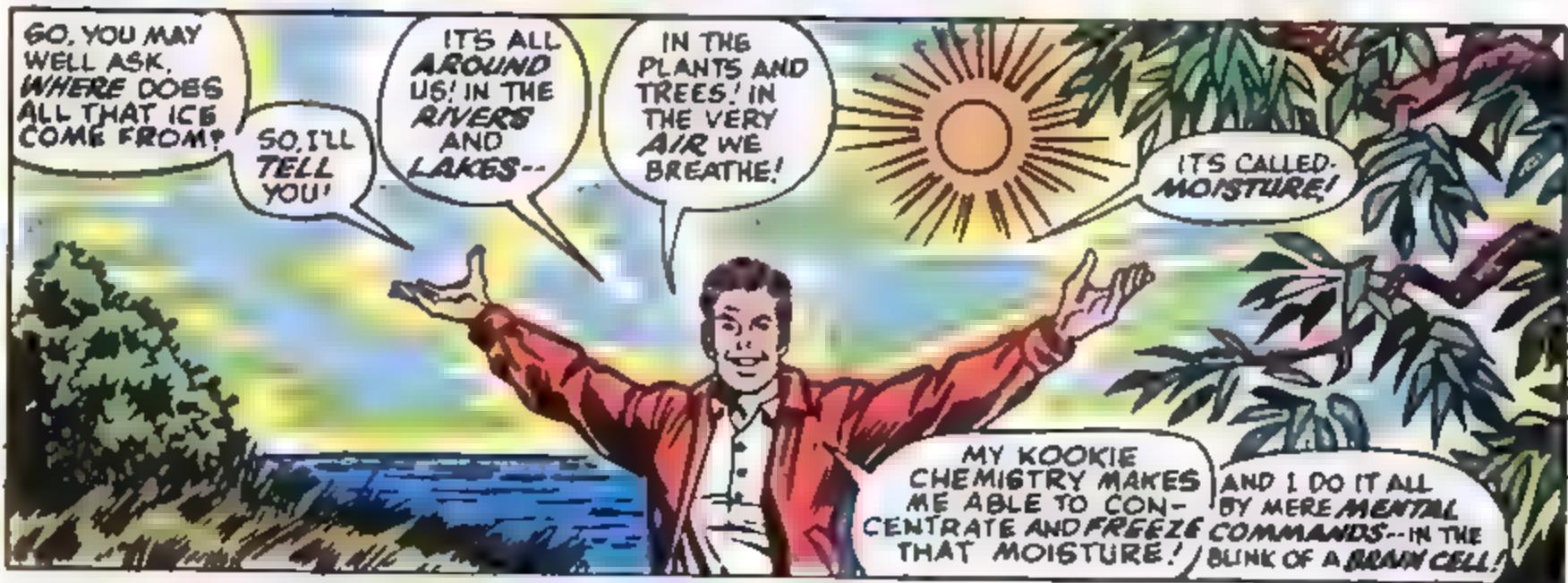
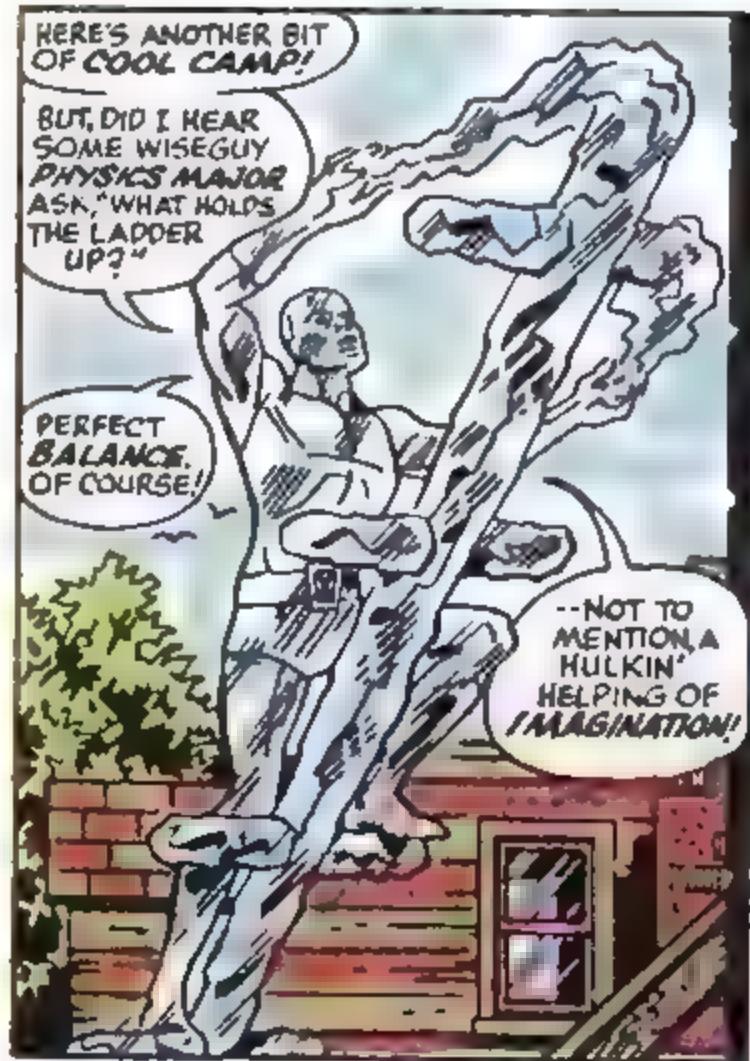
SH-SH-SHIVERINGLY
SCRIPTED BY
ARNOLD DRAKE

P-P-PETRIFYINGLY
PENNED BY
WERNER ROTH

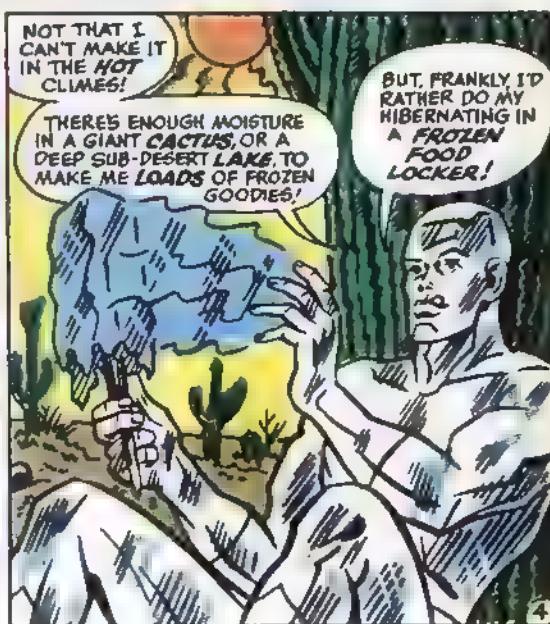
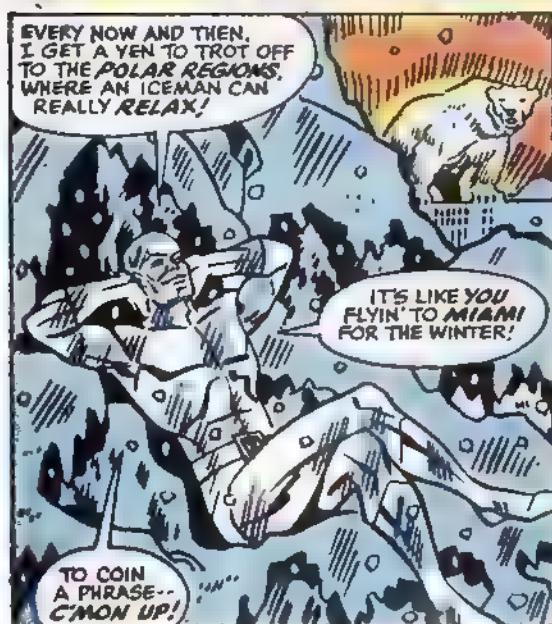
I-I-ICILY
INKED BY
JOHN VERPOORTEN

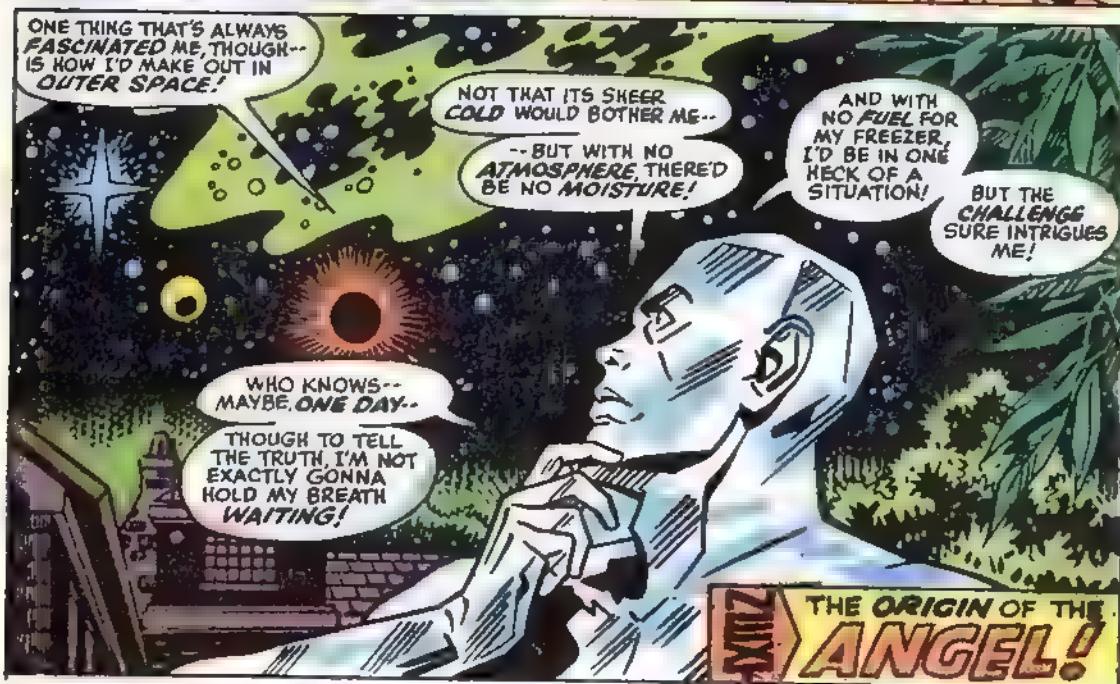
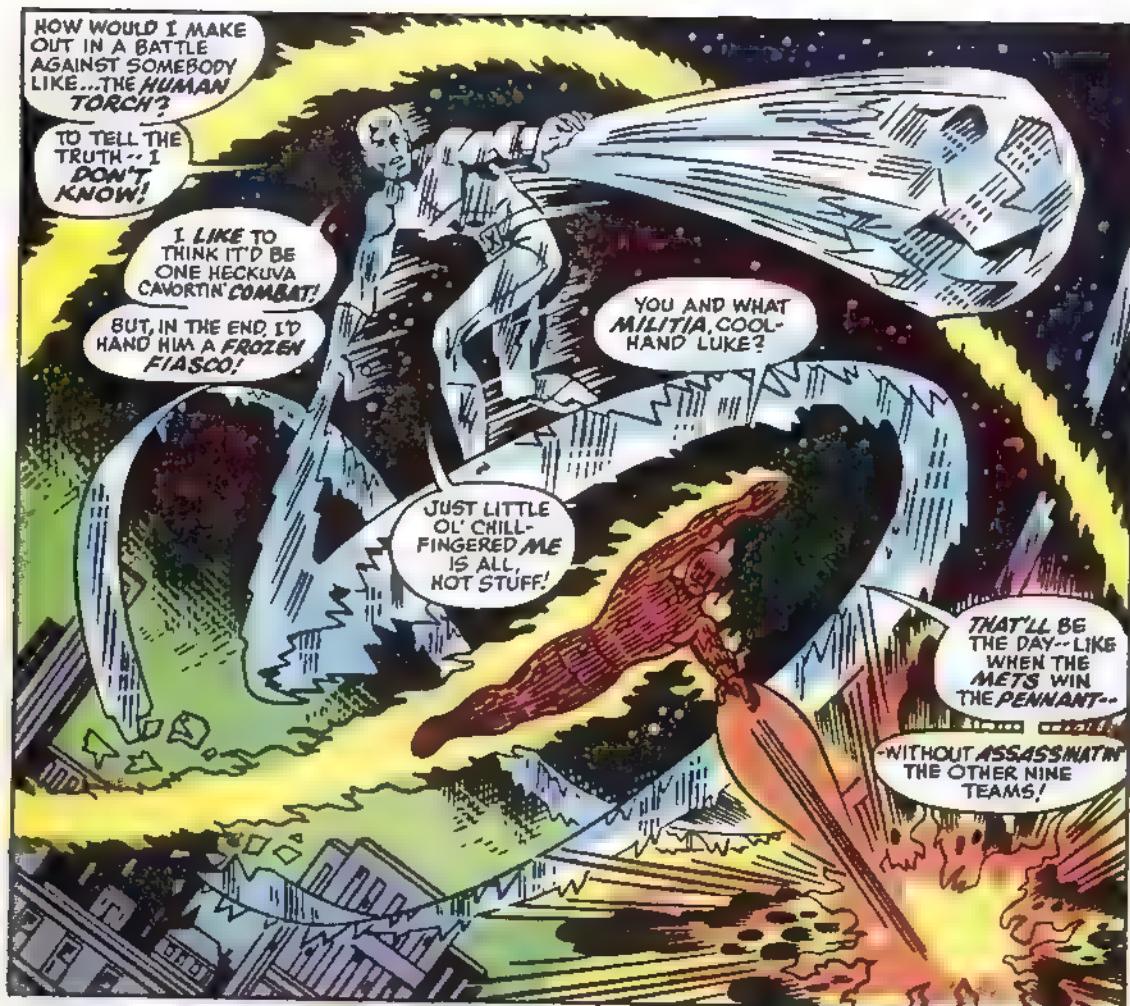
LUKEWARMLY
LETTERED BY
JOE ROSEN





CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE





TM THE ORIGIN OF THE
ANGEL!

MORE HYSTERICAL HOOPLA AND HANGUPS FROM YOUR HOWLIN' HOUSE OF IDEAS!

ITEM! Remember when STAN THE MAN wrote just about every superhero yarn we published during the early days of Marvel? Well, the reason we've been able to expand our output and to bring you more of the mags you've been clamoring for is because we've gradually found other scripters who've been able to capture the mad modern Marvel mood. The first of these sensational scribes is our new associate editor Rascally ROY THOMAS our poker-playing pundit of the pandemonious plot! Next we latched onto an old buddy of Roy's Groovy GARY FRIEDRICH our swingin' zingin' folk song singin' assistant ed. But not content to rest on our laurels we were lucky enough to snare Affable ARCHIE GOODWIN former editor author and blushing bon vivant who brings his own scintillatin' style to the majesty of Marvel. And now just a few months later we announce with pride that another two stalwarts who've toiled elsewhere for so these many years have finally seen the light and joined the ranks of True Believers here at the bally Bullpen. We'll introduce 'em in another ish! So, where once there was just poor slavin' long suffering Stan, our leader now has five fabulous far-out fantasy writing friends to help us prove we mean it when we say "Hang onto your hat, hero — Marvel's taking over the world!" (Or wouldja believe Yancy Street?)

ITEM! But with every bit of good news, there is often its exact opposite. And so, with heavy hearts, we announce the departure of one of the Bullpen's most popular pixies — Fabulous FLO STEINBERG who bids us a fond farewell to seek her fortunes in another field of endeavor. Lovely Fab had won the collective hearts of Marveldom Assembled in the years during which she helped to answer the ever-growing mountain of mail which sometimes threatened to engulf us all. Face Front, Flo! The best of luck to you where ever you go!

ITEM! For those of you who've been vacationing on another planet for the past few months, we're gonna repeat the ~~the~~ swingin' in ranks of Marveldom for serious study and transcendental meditation! Now for Odin's sake, memorize 'em carefully 'cause we're starting to get writers cramp!

RFO (Real Frantic One): A buyer of at least 3 Marvel mags each month

QNS (Quite Nuff Sayer): A fortunate frantic one who's had a letter printed

TTB (Titantic True Believer): A divinely-inspired no-prize winner

KOF (Keeper Of the Flame): One who recruits a newcomer to Marvel's hot button ranks

PMW (Permanent Marvelite Member): Anyone possessing all four of the other titles

FFF (Fearless Front Facer): An honorary title, bestowed for devotion to Marvel above and beyond the call of duty

But, even if you're just a lowly FFM (Futile Forbush Man, natch!) take heart, 'cause we love you just the same!



STAN'S SOAPBOX

This one's a real surprise! You've seen Herb Trimpe's name listed as "inker" all over the place in our mags. Well, a few weeks ago we saw some of his original drawings and realized that we've had an exciting, top-notch pen-and-ink hidden right under our quivering noses! So, not being shy we asked Happy Herbie what he'd like to draw and he told us "It seems that Mr. Trimpe is a dyed-in-the-wool fan of World War I airplane dogfights! And, since the rest of your Bullpen are shameless superhero fans, we decided to combine the two. Which is just our long-winded way of telling you not to dare miss MARVEL SUPERHEROES #16, which features one of the most daringly different superheroes of all — The Phantom Eagle! And now, we've gotta cut out — Country Joe and the Fish just arrived to visit us — and we don't wanna keep 'em out of the water too long!"

Excelsior!

Smiley

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

Marvelous Mags On Sale Right Now!

THE 35¢ SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #1: Last chance, web spinners! The great second ish goes on sale next month, and these'll be gone forever! We couldn't sleep nights if we thought you'd missed the longest Spidey saga ever presented! And oh that artwork!

NOT BRAND ECHIDNA #9: This one, too, is on sale for a second month to make sure that no Flame-Keeper among you misses it. It's got more pages, laughs, and lunacy than ever before. And dig thoseazzin' stuporheroes!

SILVER SURFER #1: Featuring the longest, and possibly the greatest Origin story ever illustrated. There's no doubt about it — the Silver Surfer is certain to equal Spidey himself in popularity! And we should worry — they're both ours!

FANTASTIC FOUR #78: The story tandem has long awaited! Never has the super-powerful Thing faced a grimmer problem — or been forced to make a more desperate decision! It's dynamite! And, wait'll you see who the villain is!

SPIDER-MAN #64: Now that Spidey knows the Vulture lives again, he has to answer another question — how can one lone wall-crawler with more problems than he can wiggle a web at, defeat the most deadly foe of all?

MARVEL SUPER-HEROES #16: Just as we promised you — a full-length blockbuster of mystery and action, starring the all-new Phantom Eagle! Plus, the usual mildly-magnificent mish-mash of masked misanthropes!

AVENGERS #36: So you think you learned the full secret of the dread Crimson Coat last ish? Well, don't believe it, pilgrim... till you see the Avengers slug it out to the finish with his malevolent Masters of Evil! Hooo boy!



DAREDEVIL #43: No, it's not a gag! It's not an *uchhi*! Imaginary talk! It's for real! DD finally battles the one and only — Captain America — with no punches pulled! It's the action-hit of the month — a brain-blastin'!

MIGHTY THOR #159: Truly one of Thor's most epic sagas! Although the Thunder God has battled many foes before, never has any come as close to the destruction of the entire universe as has — Mangog! This one's a must!

CAPTAIN AMERICA #105: Zow! Look who's back — none other than the bludgeonin' Batroc, accompanied by the Living Laser and the sinister Swordarm! For fantastic action beyond compare, wait'll you see Cap tackle "Batroc's Brigade"!

INCREDIBLE HULK #107: Our green-skinned golem faces not one, but three deadly threats — the far-eastern counterpart of Shield, the menacing Mandarin — and perhaps the one thing that even his titanic strength can't combat!

IRON MAN #5: Possibly the most unusual transmogrified saga of all, as our great golden avenger rockets into the far future, where public enemy number one is none other than... Tony Stark! And wait'll you meet Cerebrus!

SUB-MARINER #5: For all those frantic ones who thought we'd never come up with a non-Atlanian underwater baddie for Namor to fight, we proudly present the one and only Tiger Shark! He's deep-shit dynamite!

MARVEL'S SPACE-BORN SUPERHERO!
CAPTAIN MARVEL #5: Who — or what — is the amazing Metazoid? Don't even try to guess — until you see him come face to face with the spaceman called Mar-Vell in an action-packed, TNT-charged duel to the death! 'Nuff said!

NICK FURY, AGENT OF SHIELD #4: With vengeance in his merciless heart... with super-weapons which beggar description... the evil entity called Scorpio strikes again at Nick Fury, the man he is pledged to destroy! Not for the timid!

DR. STRANGE #172: Dormammu's back — and Doc Strange has got him! Or, is it the other way around? And, breathes there a Marvelite who'll dare miss Gentleman Gene Colan's great art job on our favorite mystic master?

SH. FURY #57: It's a mission of mercy, as Fury and his hard-hittin' Howlers plummet into Hitler-land to rescue Jim Morita's captured Nisei Squad from a Nazi POW camp! Need we say more, battle-mag buffs?

CAPTAIN SAVAGE #5: Who but mind-bending Marvel would dare put out a war-mag about... a counterfeiting plot? But, if you think they're in for a muck run — forget it! It's a block-bustin', brain-bogglin' blast!

MARVEL COLLECTORS' ITEM CLASSICS #16: The FF, Iron Man, Dr. Strange, and the Hulk in some of the greatest, never-to-be-forgotten epics from the past! When we call it a collectors' item, we're not just whistlin' "The Merry Marvel Mazurka"!

MARVEL TALES #16: The Beetle — Tomorrow Man — Plant Man — and the sinister Serpent! Against Spidey Thor, the torrid Toad and Man-e-Bug natch! A foursome of the most se-ses staggerin' battles since the Bulge!

Now You Can Be TALLER Instantly!



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Pay postman on delivery, only \$1.98 plus postage per pair of "LIFTEE" HEIGHT INCREASE PADS Or send only \$1.98 with order and we pay postage (2 Pairs \$3.50, 3 Pairs \$5.00) 10 DAY TRIAL MUST SATISFY OR MONEY WILL BE REFUNDED.

By at least **2 FULL INCHES** with amazing new invisible "LIFTEE" HEIGHT INCREASE PADS

Are you handicapped in your social contacts because of a short appearance... tired of being called shorty? Now, at last you need not suffer this embarrassment any longer with the aid of "LIFTEE", the new amazing HEIGHT INCREASE PADS. Simply slip these invisible pads in any pair of shoes. Now step into them and add 2 inches in height. THE SAME HEIGHT INCREASE AS EXPENSIVE HEIGHT INCREASING SHOES, for a fraction of the cost, to give you new poise and self-confidence—a key to success and romance. No one will suspect that you are wearing them—but what an impressive difference they make! These LIGHTWEIGHT FOAM RUBBER AND CUSHION CORK PADS fit securely without gluing and interchangeable in any shoes. "LIFTEE" is scientifically designed for real walking comfort and an aid to better posture. "LIFTEE" is worn by thousands of smart men and women in all walks of life. Durable and shock absorbing. Size man's or woman's shoe size

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Mans Shoe Size Ladies Shoe Size
 Check here if you wish to save postage by sending only \$1.98 with coupon. Same money back guarantee. 2 Pairs \$3.50
 3 Pairs \$5.00

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CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

I'LL MAKE YOU A MASTER OF



日本中華民國
WALLACE W. REUMANN

KARATE

Karate is the secret, Oriental art of self-defense that turns your hands, arms, legs into paralyzing weapons... without any bodily contact.

In just 2 hours after you receive "SUPER KARATE" you will be on your way to being an invincible Karate Master, at home, this Fast, EASY way or it costs you nothing.

defense in which you turn your hands, arms and legs into invincibly powerful weapons of attack. When you know how to use KARATE you dominate and dominate your opponent in SECONDS.

When you apply KARATE techniques, you can cut an aggressor down with a blow of the side of your hand. You can toss an attacker from the rear over your shoulder and slam him into the ground. In fact, a recent photograph in *Pageant Magazine* shows a 110 lb girl slamming her 160-lb. instructor into the practice mat.

With KARATE you can disarm an opponent, rushing you with his fist, a broken bottle, a revolver or any kind of bludgeon. You can turn an aggressor's attack into your advantage with only your bare hands, your arms and your legs.

MASTER EVERY SITUATION

With KARATE you can disarm and subdue two, three and even four attackers. You can apply a blow, a pressure of your thumb and finger against one of a dozen vital nerve centers of your opponent, and watch his gun or knife fall from his limp hand while he himself sinks to the ground completely helpless and faint.

In fact, a knowledge of KARATE will turn you into a NEW MAN even if you never have to use it! For you will become self-assured and

GIANT LIFE-LIKE KARATE PRACTICE DUMMY

only **99¢**



INCLUDES ILLUSTRATED KARATE INSTRUCTION PROGRAM. Now you can speed up your knowledge of KARATE and become a champ more quickly than you ever thought possible. You can start to win your own personal KARATE match. Just as though you actually had a live human you're up against. Amazingly lifelike Giant KARATE PRACTICE DUMMY stands clearly taller than 6 feet, which should be sufficient height for anyone to be easy to fall into. Instead, use it as a shield. Your KARATE MATCH, show your skill to all. You can learn the many major vulnerable regions, the defense or counter-attack position to take and your body's personal weapons which you can use to deadly effect, such as edge of hand, knee, elbow, etc. Big numbers on DUMMY show you exact location of pressure points and weak spots which you can practice striking. Order your own personal DUMMY and illustrated KARATE instructions now. Check coupon. Only 99¢ plus 25¢ for postage.

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Order both the SUPER KARATE BOOK and LIFE-LIKE DUMMY for only \$1.98 postpaid and save 32¢. Just check box in coupon below. We pay all postage. Great Britain 15

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Rush your special Combination money-saving package of SUPER KARATE BOOK and DUMMY. I enclose \$1.98 in payment in full. I save 32¢. Ship in plain wrapper. My friends and I must be delighted with my amazing new power or you refund my money in full.

Rush my copy of SUPER KARATE BOOK in plain wrapper for which I enclose 99¢ plus 25¢ for postage and handling (total \$1.25).

Rush my life-like Karate DUMMY in plain wrapper, for which I enclose 99¢ plus 25¢ for postage and handling (total \$1.25).

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CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____
 I understand that by studying KARATE I am morally bound and obligated never to practice KARATE as an aggression only to defend myself and will never abuse it.



Mutant Mail-Box

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GROUP, SECOND FLOOR
625 MADISON AVE.,
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10022

Dear Stan and Roy,

Just received X-MEN #44 and I must write to comment on a glaring mistake that any science fiction reader would notice. On page 8 Angel steps into the islands and says "... This is like something out of a Ray Bradbury novel a vast complex of machinery... or perhaps weapons!" Any science fiction reader would know that Bradbury does not write that type of story. He writes of ordinary people in unusual situations and places. A writer like Edward E. Smith, John Campbell, A. E. VanVogt, or Edmond Hamilton would have been a better choice than Ray Bradbury. Just want to say that I enjoy all your mags, but must complain about your interrupting one saga to put in a whole issue of something not related to the big problem at all, like 'Red Raven, Red Raven' in the midst of the X-Men's battle with Magneto. I also think you are letting your characters' personal problems mess up the teams too much. The Avengers has been changed so much lately by personal troubles that we don't know who is actually in the Avengers anymore, and the Fantastic Four has lost what I think is one of their best characters just because she's pregnant. So how about getting things just a little bit less confused?

Douglas J. Harter Jr., 607 Sunset Dr.,
Dillsburg, Penna. 17019

We will, Doug . . . we will! Just as soon as we get a little less confused ourselves! Oh, and to all you Ray Bradbury fans, a most sincere "Sorry about that!" And, just to prove that we mean it, we're sending Groovy Gary back to the School of Science Fiction Fandom for a refresher course . . . at the kindergarten level, natch!

Dear Stan and Gary,

I suppose you have more in mind for the race of bird-men which you introduced (and quickly disposed of) in X-MEN #44 than an 8-page sub-plot in one X-Men story. I hope the next time you bring in the feathered foes you'll explain how the Red Raven grew a pair of wings between the time he released the gas to the time he is shown standing before the sleeping legions a sneaky way to ask for a No-Prize, you must admit. I noticed an error in the "origins" story, you have Cyclops wearing his current fighting costume in a story which obviously takes place a number of years ago. I'll be sporting enough to admit that I don't remember what Cyke wore in X-MEN #1 either, but it must've been something other than his current blue and yellow.

Arnie Katz, University of Buffalo
423 Oxford Ave., Buffalo, New York 14226

Right you are, Arnie! Mixed-up Marvel has done it again! Cyke should've been clad in his original costume—which was yellow and blue but considerably different in design from the current costume! As for the Red Raven's wings—all we can say is that you didn't read his origin very carefully! He himself was not one of the birdmen! He was merely adopted by them after his parents died in a plane crash! Therefore, he obviously wouldn't have grown wings! So that means his fabulous flappers must be mechanical—and he could've strapped them on at just about any time between the panels you pointed out! Don't feel too

bad, though! After all, hitting on one boomer we couldn't get out of isn't bad! As a matter of fact, it's good enough that we're winging a fashion-critics' approved no-prize your way at this very instant—all of which goes to prove that we may not be very accurate, but our generosity rates second to none!



Dear Stan,

What's with this "Origin of Iceman" thing? Everybody knows that he was bitten by a radioactive icecube! Get with it, man!!!

Jerry Sink, 3406 Bowfin Avenue
San Pedro, California 90732

We'd like to, Jer . . . but didja ever try to write after having a radioactive martini? Sheesh!

Dear Stan, Roy, and Don,

Why is it that almost every Marvelite but me (it seems!) figures that just because the X-Men are mutants that they should fight only mutant menaces? If this were true, then it follows that Daredevil should fight only blind villains, Thor should battle only gods, the Hulk should come to grips with none but the greenest of green-skinned villains, and the Avengers should be confined to fighting only those super villain groups that change their line-ups a lot. You can see how ridiculous this is. After all, as long as evil exists, no matter what form it exists in, no man who dares call himself a super-hero is justified in ignoring it simply because it's not his type of menace. Right? I'd rather see the day when all is quiet in New York City, and our heroes are practically going stir-crazy, looking for action. (Can you see some poor bedraggled villain poking his head out of a manhole on such a day? Talk about getting mobbed! The poor fellow wouldn't even know what hit him!)

Dean Crawford, 374 Burroughs Dr
Buffalo, New York 14226

Probably not, Dean—but we'd be willing to bet our Forbush-Man T-shirts that a taxi would run him down before any super-doer could make the scene! Anyways, you've made a powerful point with which we couldn't agree more! Although the X-Men were founded for the specific purpose of fighting evil mutants, you needn't believe for a second that they'd head for the hills if, say, Doc Doom headed their way! So, in the future, you can be certain our Marvel-ous mutants will be taking on their share of bombastic baddies who fall under the homo sapiens classification, as well as nasty-type mutants! (Or at least they will if we remember!)

KNOW YE THESE, THE HALLOWED RANKS OF MARVELDOM

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(QUITE 'MUFF SAYER) — A FORTUNATE FRANTIC ONE WHO'S HAD A LETTER PRINTED
(TITANIC TRUE BELIEVER) — A DIVINELY INSPIRED NO PRIZE WINNER

(KEEPER OF THE FLAME) — ONE WHO RECRUITS A NEW COMER TO MARVEL'S ROLICKIN' RANKS.

(PERMANENT MARVELITE MAXIMUS) — ANYONE POSSESSING ALL FOUR OF THE OTHER TITLES

(FEARLESS FRONT FACER) — AN HONORARY TITLE, BESTOWED FOR DEVOTION TO MARVEL ABOVE AND BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY

Dear Stan and Roy,

Hoo Boy! Man, are you going to get it. In issue #44 of the X-MEN, in the "Origins of the X-Men", you have Bobby being attacked by three baddies. He freezes one of them. All four people see him do it. He runs home and the whole town comes after him to get rid of the "freak". Well, he uses his freeze power against everybody and everybody sees him. And then you say he has a secret identity? Wouldn't the town kinda wonder when they hear about this kid that goes around freezing things? I mean, how many guys go around making snowballs from their fingers? That's one goof. Here's the other. You say this is all happening in 1963? Well, take a look at Scott's uniform. Correct me if I'm wrong but didn't Jean design that costume for him in 1968? Well, I'll make you feel better and tell you that "Red Raven, Red Raven!" was great, as usual, and the art is just fab. I might even renew my subscription when the time comes.

Bob Evans, 5494 Via Carancho
San Diego, California

You'd better—'cause, if you don't, you may never know how Iceman managed to keep his identity a secret! No, on second thought, that isn't so, because we already wrapped that up last issue! Just in case you missed it, though, let us clue you in to what happened! After Ic and Cyke escaped the mob, Professor X blanketed the small town with a mental bolt which erased all memory of Bobby Drake's freezing antics from the town's citizenry . . . including the young mutant's parents! Thus, today, no one other than his fellow X-Men and Agent Duncan of the FBI is aware that Bobby Drake and Iceman are one and the same person!

Dear Stan and Roy,

I thought issue 43 was just fabulous. George Tuska has finally come into his own, and I'll look forward to seeing him in future issues. Some people run down the new costumes. I think they're the most (to say the last word in the matter, Frank Mieuli, who owns the San Francisco Warriors basketball team, dressed his players in uniforms that looked most peculiar to a lot of people. They won the Western Division championship that year. Obviously the uniforms didn't alter their fine performance.) How about having Prof. X communicate with the X-Men through a séance? I think it would add something to your mag. I've only been a Marvel fan for 2½ years, but I can still hold up my head and say "Until the Hulk marries Jean Grey, you can MAKE MINE MARVEL!"

Geoff Leskovsky, 1707 Zinnia Lane
San Jose, California 95124

And that we'll do most gladly, Geoff, boy—although we can't promise to bring back Professor X . . . even through a séance! We've said it before, and, just for the record, we'll say it just one time more—when we kill someone, he stays killed! Now, as for Lonesome George's powerful pencilling, we assume you're still following it in our "Origins of the X-Men" series—and we hope you're equally impressed with the titanic team of Dashin' Donnie Heck and Wondrous Werner Roth on the feature-length X-Men yarns each month! Oh, and before we forget, our heartfelt thanks for jumping to the defense of our merry mutants' controversial new costumes—and we couldn't agree more that clothes aren't likely to either make or break a team! Besides, we still contend that, as time goes by, the new costumes will grow on even the most determined of hold-outs! There! Who says this isn't the Marvel age of cataclysmic confidence?!

Dear Stan and Roy,

The men from S.P.A.M. (Society for Prevention of Atrocities to Mutants) are after you! I refer to X-Men #44, page

3, panel 3. Imagine, handcuffing (footcuffing?) Beasts' hands to his feet. Have you ever tried standing on your hands for five minutes? If you do you'll find it quite painful. Oh, well, I now know the meaning of MARVEL. (Mutantism Ain't Really Very Easy Living.) Jim Kirkland, 504 Arneson Ave. Auburndale, Florida 33823

You can say that again! But don't feel too bad about Beast's predicament in issue #44! Not even Magneto would do anything so sadistic as make him stand on his hands and feet at the same time! It just looked that way! Actually, the cuffs were constructed so that all of his weight rested on his feet—but we still don't recommend it over ye olde easy chair for restful relaxation!



Dear Stan, Roy, and Dan,

Are you guys infatuated with scenes of characters sticking their heads in subway trains? I think you are, and the reason why is quite simple; the scenes of Grotesk and the subway train are almost exactly like the ones in FF #25, page 8, panel 7, and very similar to the ones in FF #70, page 2, panel 2. Is stealing from your own back issues a form of plagiarism? Along similar lines, the Beast is beginning to pick up a certain speech or creed. This is: "Haven't you heard that violence is the last refuge of the incompetent?" If any of your other costumed characters were to say a certain speech over and over, I would think that you were running out of things for them to say and would be repeating yourselves, but for the Beast to do this would fit right in with his character. On the other hand, your using this often-used origin for Grotesk is unforgivable! There must be hundreds of costumed heroes and/or villains running around that are the last member of their race (I can think of several, including the top character of your number one competitor). How can you possibly call Jack o' Diamonds a mutant? He gained his power in a lab accident (another old origin source). If Jack is a mutant, so are Spidey, DD, and the FF and about a million of your villains. While talking about the origin section, let me mention that the artwork of Roth-Verpoorten is far superior to that of Heck-Tuska. In the letter column, you made a mistake; in answer to Rick Elrod you said that MARVEL SUPER-HEROES #2 presented the reprinted origin story. There is no such issue; the correct answer is MARVEL TALES #2. While talking about the letter col., let me mention that at first I thought that TM meant Timely-Marvel, but I soon realized that it meant trademark. In closing, I wish to withdraw the comments I made on the X-Men in my last letter; X-MEN #41 proved to me they are very much alive.

Gene Wallace, 4505 E. Court St.
Flint, Michigan 48506

And are we relieved to hear it! Until we got to your closing comment, we were afraid we lost them somewhere along the way! As for Jack O' Diamonds not being a mutant—we're gonna have to color that theory wrong! One doesn't have to be born with special powers to be classified a mutant—so, in a sense, Spidey, DD, and the FF do indeed fall into that category! Finally, you're right about the X-Men's origin being reprinted in MARVEL TALES #2! All we can say about that slip-up is . . . "we goofed!"



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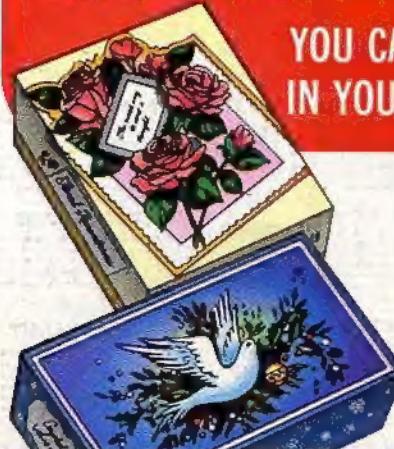
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